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Haughey to sound Reagan on Ulster

The protesters spent about 10 minutes caricaturing law lords before deciding to adjourn to the nearest public house. "We shall be back", one said as the bus left with two passengers and a banner saying "democracy taken for a ride". Mr Jeffrey Bunyan, the conductor, collected a record Sunday total of 20p

**DANGER: H.M. Government Health Departments' WARNING:
THINK ABOUT THE HEALTH RISKS BEFORE SMOKING**



NEWS IN SUMMARY

Six killed in Alps avalanches

Paris. — Nine avalanches in the French Alps have killed at least six people and left three missing. Twenty others were reported injured (Jonathan Fenby writes).

The dead were all found at high altitudes away from regular ski runs. Five of the bodies were found in the Savoie department, round the resorts of Bonneval-sur-Arc, Cellier and Modane.

The sixth body was recovered above Magève in Haute-Savoie. Three skiers rescued near Cellier were flown to hospital.

Convoy buried in Peru

Lima. — Rescuers are searching for victims of a landslide which is feared to have killed 100 travellers on a Peruvian jungle highway at Tocache, 700 miles north-east of here.

Five bodies and 10 vehicles have been recovered. The landslide buried a convoy of trucks and cars.

Terrorists kill three in Iran

Beirut. — Terrorists have killed a prominent religious leader in Tehran.

Hojatollah Muhammad Salem Hosni and his two bodyguards were killed after a bomb was thrown at their car.

India awaits top Soviet brass



Delhi. — Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, the Soviet Defence Minister, is due to arrive here today for a five-day visit at the head of the most high-powered Soviet military team to come to India for seven years.

Marshal Ustinov (above) will be accompanied by the chiefs of the Soviet Navy and Air Force and the deputy Army chief. The Indian Government has emphasized that the visit is not connected with fresh arms supplies from Moscow.

Nkomo MP arrested

Salisbury. — Mr Akim Ndlovu, a Zapu MP, has been arrested in connexion with the illicit weapons found last month on property belonging to the party, the *Sunday Mail* said.

There was no official confirmation of Mr Ndlovu's arrest, but informed sources said he had been arrested with three other prominent Zapu supporters. The arrested men are close associates of Mr Joshua Nkomo, who was dismissed from the coalition Cabinet last month.

Protests force Arab to quit

Tel Aviv. — The Palestinian member of the Arab League from Deir Samit in Hebron in the occupied West Bank has resigned after threats from Jordan that it would bring charges of treason against Palestinians associated with the League.

Israeli troops arrested 30 Palestinians from Dubeicheh refugee camp after vehicles travelling on the Ramallah to Hebron road alongside the camp were damaged and passengers injured when refugees hurled rocks at them in protest against Israeli occupation.

EEC dominates Cheysson visit

Paris. — Differences over the EEC budget and farm prices are expected to feature prominently in talks today between M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, and Lord Carrington at Chevening House, the Foreign Secretary's official country home (Jonathan Fenby writes).

Britain's demands for budget reform and the attempt to link this with the common agricultural policy have strained relations between London and Paris on community affairs.

Britons 'held in squalor'

British mercenaries jailed in Angola are living in horrific conditions according to a letter sent home by Michael Wiseman, sentenced with six others in 1977.

He says that six to eight prisoners share one tin of fish a day and are given porridge riddled with bugs and they are allowed one small bar of soap a month for washing themselves, their clothes and their cells.

Scepticism greets US chemical war claim

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, March 14

Western diplomats here are puzzled by America's allegations that the Russians have been using chemical warfare in Afghanistan. They are waiting for the Americans to produce evidence to support the claim that 3,042 Afghans have been killed in 47 chemical attacks.

These claims invite scepticism. So far as is known, no other country or agency can provide evidence of chemical warfare, certainly not on the suggested scale. Diplomats find it curious that the Americans seem so positive. The best gloss they put on the allegations is that although other sources cannot provide corroboration, or even hearsay reports, that does not mean the Americans are wrong.

There is concern that without prompt substantiation the opponents of the Russian presence could become mired in a futile distraction from the central issue, the takeover of a country. The question of chemical warfare has been raised and pursued a number of times since the Russians moved in during December, 1979.

Western journalists have interviewed hundreds of Afghan refugees in Pakistan and exiles in India without hearing reliable reports of chemical attacks. Reporters have made clandestine journeys to Afghanistan and have talked to many mujahidin guerrillas and villagers.

They have heard no reliable account, or found any evidence or relic of a gas attack. Hospitals on the border, where many sick and wounded Afghans are treated, report no evidence of injury — such as burns or damage to the respiratory system — caused by chemical weapons. Nor as far as one can tell, have Afghans complained in any serious and consistent way of evidence of chemical attacks. This lack of evidence is in contrast to the assertions of the West.

Mr Walter Stoessel, Deputy Secretary of State, at the Senate foreign relations committee in Washington last week. He called chemical warfare "a particularly heinous aspect of Soviet military action in Afghanistan".

He said: "analysis of all the information available leads us to conclude that attacks have been conducted with irritants, incapacitants, nerve agents, phosgene, and

perhaps mycotoxins (produced by fungus), lewisite (a poison gas) and toxic smoke".

Very precise information about chemicals used, and where they are stored, had been obtained from Afghan officers who were trained in chemical warfare in the Soviet Union and later defected, he said. "We are continuing to collect information from refugees in Pakistan who have experienced chemical attacks themselves, so we feel this is reliable information about a very serious situation".

The allegations were later given the presidential seal when Mr Reagan, proclaiming March 21 as Afghanistan Day to mark the bravery of Afghans and to condemn the invasion, said that the Russians were using chemical and biological weapons. Mr Stoessel said information about chemical warfare had been received primarily from Afghan sources. This admission may be the weakest part of his statement.

Reporters and other observers have learnt that among the mujahidin and other Afghans there is a penchant for exaggeration and a willingness to tell a questioner what he wants to hear. It is also characteristic of Afghan testimonial that figures are precise as well as exaggerated, so the figure of 3,042 dead has a rather Afghan ring to it.

It is surprising that the Americans seem to have cornered the market in Afghans with knowledge of chemical warfare. It is strange that in two years such information has not trickled from official sources to journalists and to other diplomats.

Good evidence of chemical attacks might be difficult to find. All Russian front line forces have offensive and defensive chemical warfare units, on the assumption that Western forces would use chemicals. It is certainly possible that such units may have been sent to Afghanistan, and possible that chemical experiments may have been conducted.

If hospitals in Peshawar (and in Kabul, I am told) have not seen the victims of chemical attacks it may be because the effects of irritants and incapacitants have worn off, or the badly affected may not have been

able to escape from Afghanistan. If there have been attacks these may have been confined to remote and distant areas.

In many visits to the frontier, and one to Afghanistan, I have heard only two accounts of chemical warfare. One was a second hand story about a poisoned well, the other a first hand account of street fighting in Herat, which was apparently used from the description given by a mujahidin commander it seemed to be true.

The amputees and bullet holes tell an irrefutable story of what is happening in Afghanistan. So do the bombed villages and huge refugee camps. What concerns many of those observing the war is that with their chemical warfare allegations the Americans may have started a hare that will distract from the reality.

It is not easy to report what is happening in Afghanistan. To some extent reporting relies on diplomatic sources. There is now concern that the Americans produce proof, the damage to the integrity of information will be at the expense of the West and the people of Afghanistan.

Karmal blames outsiders

Moscow. President Babrak Karmal today told 841 party delegates gathered at a national conference in Kabul that new relations of trust and fraternity had been established between the patriotic forces in Afghanistan (Michael Binyon writes).

According to a Tass report released here, he said little more about the attempt to heal the bitter breach between the Parcham (Flag) and Khalq (Masses) factions of the ruling Marxist-Leninist Democratic Party and blamed divisions in the country entirely on outside intervention and counter-revolution.

President Karmal spoke at length about the socialist transformations undertaken since the 1978 revolution brought Marxists to power, and said that his Government attached paramount importance to strengthening political and economic relations with the Soviet Union and other communist countries.

Iran and Syria prepare to draw up oil deal

By Edward Mortimer

Syria and Iran reached a preliminary agreement yesterday on Iranian oil sales to meet the needs of Syria's two refineries, it was reported by Tehran radio.

The agreement, if implemented, will translate the political alliance of Syria and Iran — both bitterly hostile to the regime of President Saddam Hussein in Iraq into economic reality. Until now Syria, while politically at daggers drawn with Iraq, has depended on it for oil. (Syria produces heavy crude oil, but imports light crude.)

The agreement was reached after three hours of talks in Tehran between Mr Abdul-Jabbar al-Dabbak, the Syrian Oil Minister, and his Iranian counterpart, Mr Muhammad Gharazi. Mr Dabbak is in Tehran as part of a 40-member delegation led by Mr Abdul-Halim Kaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, the closest confidant of President Hafiz al-Assad.

The team includes the Foreign Trade Minister and senior officials in the Transport and Supply ministries. It is clear that the mission is intended to strengthen political and economic ties between Syria and Iran.

From the Syrian point of view this is necessary be-

Exam paper fraud plea by doctors

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi, March 14

Doctors in Delhi are demanding an inquiry into an alleged racket in buying and selling medical college examination papers.

The cheating trade was exposed by the *Hindustan Times* which reported that, for a price, question papers for undergraduate and post-graduate course were leaked and that answer papers were "adjusted" after the examination. Candidates could also pay impersonators to sit the paper for them.

In a leading article the newspaper said that "when racketeers resort to such practices in medical education they are looting on an unsuspecting public under-servicing candidates who will presumably become doctors and surgeons not adequately qualified to be entrusted with the life and health of their patients".

The newspaper investigation shows how students can buy leaked examination papers a few hours before the event, how they can cheat during the examination and how papers can be manipulated afterwards. The price of assistance ranges from about £200 to more than £2,000.

BOTH FIRM OVER APARTHEID

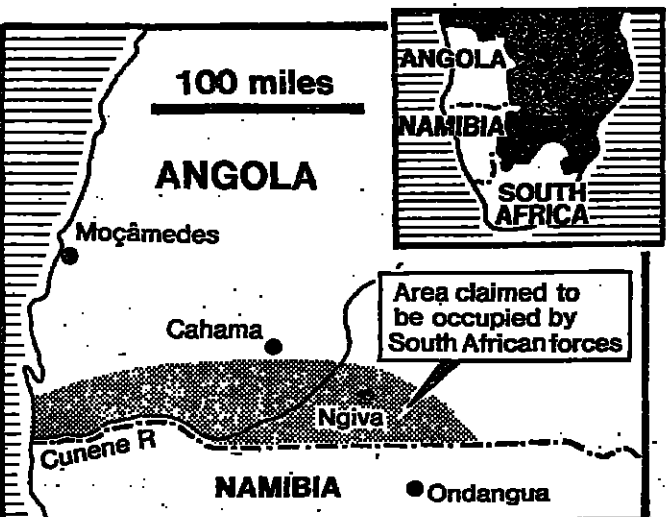
From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, March 14

The protection of the right to self-determination of South Africa's whites was still the first principle on which the Government policy was based Mr P.W. Botha, the Prime Minister said tonight in a radio and television interview.

In the code-language of apartheid, "self-determination" means the preservation of political control in white hands and resistance to the concept of majority rule, and Mr Botha's remarks were seen as reassurance of the Afrikaner faithful that the Government is not about to make any abrupt departure from previous policy.

The Prime Minister's statement has not been judged against a background of growing grass-roots support for Dr Andries Treurnicht, the right-wing leader expelled with six colleagues from the ruling National Party last week.

Over the past week three party divisional committees in Transvaal, including those in the constituencies of Dr Treurnicht and Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg, another of the expelled MPs, and also a former Cabinet Minister, have come out strongly in favour of the rebel faction.



Angola claims occupation

By Richard Dowden

South African troops have been occupying 50,000 square miles of Angola territory since they invaded the country in August last year, according to Lieutenant-Colonel Ngongo, a member of the Angolan Defence Staff. In an interview in London he said that the South Africans were in control of land around the Cunene River. They were sending patrols up the river to harass the guerrillas over the port of Mocimboa and southern Angolan towns.

He also said that they had failed to capture the town of Cahama, though it had been severely damaged by bombing.



Back in the groove: M Giscard d'Estaing, the former President who is a candidate, voting early at Chamonat where he owns a chateau.

First poll test for French left

From Jonathan Fenby, Paris, March 14

France's left wing administration today faced its first national test at the polls as voters turned out in their millions for the cantonal elections.

The significance of the elections is qualified by the importance of local issues, by the number of non-party candidates and by the low turnout which cantonal elections generally attract. But both Government and Opposition have made it clear that they regard the voting in today's first round, and in the runoff ballots next Sunday, as an important test of what France thinks of the Mitterrand administration after 10 months in power.

Interest is further heightened by the participation of several prominent national figures, including M Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former President, who is trying to return to politics by running for local office in his native Auvergne.

The campaign has been marked by an unusual pitch of verbal violence, particularly in the final stages of the campaign by M Gaston Defferre, the Interior Minister, that neo-Gaullist leaders have protected a murdered Paris gambling club proprietor, an allegation which

today earned M Defferre a fine for slander.

More than 7,500 candidates are standing for about 2,000 posts. The *Conseillers Généraux* make up local government assemblies in 38 metropolitan and overseas departments, excluding Paris. They sit for six years, and elections are held every three years for half the seats.

These assemblies are likely to become substantially more important under the Government's decentralization measures which will transfer local administrative and financial authority to the councils. About 20 million people are eligible to vote of whom 56 per cent had turned out by late afternoon — slightly more than at the same time in previous elections.

After the Socialists' electoral triumph last summer, local councils form one of the few areas of French political life in which the Conservative opposition still enjoys a majority, controlling 49 councils compared with the left's 46.

The Socialists are hoping to reverse that situation, but they are considered unlikely to be able to reproduce the electoral swing generated last

summer by M Mitterrand's presidential victory.

The Socialists have run into a series of problems with different sectors of the electorate ranging from farmers pressing for higher prices to communist trade union leaders calling for faster implementation of economic and social reforms.

For the Communist Party, the local polls will provide evidence of whether an early recovery from last summer's sharp electoral decline is possible or whether as reported by some polls, Communist support is still shrinking.

For the opposition, the results today and next Sunday present both a chance to regain a credibility that was dissipated last summer and an opportunity to see how the neo-Gaullist RPR party and the Conservatives who were defeated under M Giscard d'Estaing can work together.

President Mitterrand flew by helicopter to the town of Chateau-Chinon in central France where he is registered as a voter. After lunching with friends in a local hotel, he and his wife walked to the Mayor's office to vote.

Latin America in turmoil

Surinam: Coup leader executed

Paramaribo, March 14. — Surinam's left-wing military rulers appeared to be firmly back in control today, after crushing an attempted coup by right-wing soldiers.

A trumpet blast in the capital's Plaza Bolívar opened 50,000 polling booths, and troops searched voters. To prevent those who do turn out from voting more than once, each elector's index finger was marked with indelible crimson ink after voting.

President Turmay voted at the Congress building, and told reporters: "Low abstentionism will show the world that we reject violence... we will show that a pure democracy functions in Colombia".

The guerrillas of the April 19 Movement (M-19) who bombed the presidential palace last week, urged voters to boycott the elections.

A brief fist fight between Conservative and Liberal supporters broke out at the northern Bogotá polling station used by the Liberal Party's official candidate, ex-President Alfonso López Michelsen.

The guerrillas of the April 19 Movement (M-19) who bombed the presidential palace last week, urged voters to boycott the elections.

President José Napoleón Duarte denied the allegation that he had been fighting rebels in the area and that it was a tactic of the guerrillas to allege massacres to conceal their defeats.

The guerrilla's claim, made over their own secret radio, was monitored by the BBC which said the guerrillas accused troops of ambushing a column of 5,000 refugees seven miles from the city of



President Duarte: Denies massacre claim.

San Vicente. An undetermined number of refugees was reported killed and most of the column were children and elderly people fleeing their homes to escape Army bombardment.

The Government account of operations around San Vicente, which is 40 miles east of San Salvador, said that air force helicopters strafed guerrilla positions on the outskirts of the city.

Army sources said 20 civilians, nine soldiers and 14 guerrillas were killed when rebels attacked a military convoy yesterday in the northern province of Chalatenango. The province is close to the border with Honduras, which the Government says is used as a sanctuary by the guerrillas.

New York: Mexico is to embark on a mediation effort between the United States and the governments of Cuba and Nicaragua to end the conflict in El Salvador, and seek reconciliation for the whole region (Zoriana Pysarski writes).

The decision by the United States to accept Mexico's long-standing offer as mediator generated one of the

China falls in love with Miss Flower

From David Bonavia, Peking, March 14

Proposals of marriage are no novelty for Katherine Flower, a graduate of Bristol University who presents the BBC English-language series *Falling Me on Chinese Television*.

From an audience conservatively estimated at ten million, but probably many more, Miss Flower receives a deluge of letters including most days, several proposals from Chinese admirers. They also send snapshots and money which she returns.

She is constantly recognised on the street by children and adults alike. "I was in a train going to Chengdu in Sichuan province," she recalls, "when I heard a voice at knee-level saying: 'Hello, Katherine Flower'. It was a child of about five."

Once, two children spotted her on a busy shopping street, grabbed either hand, and walked along with her, chattering away.

Followed by West German broadcasting networks, consists of a series of small narrative episodes typifying life in Britain. One scene, featuring a girl in the bath, was excised by the Chinese censors — as unsuitable. "And she had suds up to her ears", Miss Flower said.

Another of her programmes was "boring old grammar", so she developed new ideas and was given permission to present feature films on such subjects as a British water-colour exhibition, foreign tourists in Peking, and the English-language *China Daily* newspaper.

Miss Flower, who appears in the programme four times a week, is not the only darling of the public. One of her former Chinese colleagues had to go regularly to the Peking railway station to pick up sacks of rice and oranges sent by admirers.

Miss Flower used to present the programme in French, after graduating in English and Russian, and has learnt some Chinese over the past year.

Foreign television shows have a big audience here, after the successful screening of David Copperfield without dubbing, for students of English. *Jane Eyre* was broadcast today in Chinese, and an educational drama was shown about a British travel agency expanding into South-East Asia.

English by radio has long been popular in China but the series is presented by Chinese announcers who, while very good, are not native speakers. Miss Flower is the first British-born broadcasting teacher.

English leads all other foreign languages in popularity in China and numerous British and American people are employed as teachers and as polishers for English-language press and propaganda materials.

more positive results of the second round of talks between Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and Senator Jorge Castañeda, his Mexican counterpart.

Reagan's next 'Cuba'? Page 8

Nicaragua: Hero's return

Managua, March 14. — Nicaragua's left-wing Government is preparing a hero's welcome home for the captured soldier who embarrassed United States Government efforts to prove Nicaraguan backing for guerrillas in El Salvador.

The Foreign Ministry announced last night there would be a big public reception for the 19-year-old soldier, Señor Orlando Fardell, who was captured by the United States and returned to his home in Nicaragua.

Señor Fardell was captured by the United States on Friday when he was put before a State Department press conference. He withdrew previous statements that he was sent to El Salvador by Nicaragua after training in Cuba and Ethiopia. He said the statements he made after being captured in El Salvador last year were lies. He had made them because he had been tortured by the Salvadoreans and feared for his life if he was returned there. — Reuter.

Washington: "Sorry I am late for this meeting but I first had to wipe the egg off my face", remarked a senior administration official when he arrived to brief reporters about the talks which Mr Haig will be having in New York this week with American partners in the proposed Caribbean Basin plan (Nicholas Ashford writes).

The officials' lame attempt at a joke reflected the deep embarrassment felt over the damage done to American credibility by Señor Fardell's story. He was hastily released by the American authorities yesterday.

Local Government (No.2) Planning and Land Bill 1979

Local Government Finance Bill 1981/2

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

PART I

LOCAL GOVERNMENT—RELAXATION OF CONTROLS PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION

General relaxation of controls

Clause 1. Relaxation of Ministerial control of local authorities.

Publication of information by local authorities

2. Duty of local authorities to publish information.
3. Local authorities to whom section 2 applies.
4. Publication of information—supplementary.

PART II

DIRECT LABOUR ORGANISATIONS

Works contracts

Functional work

10. Accounts relating to construction or maintenance work.
11. Contents of accounts relating to construction or main-
tenance work.
12. Accounts relating to construction or maintenance work.
13. Persons qualified to make a statement.

(11)

A

48/1

With its usual care Whitehall has put together some new legislation.

The legislators are too busy. Particularly when it comes to imposing centralised control on local affairs.

In 1979 they put the Local Government Planning and Land Bill before Parliament.

Parliament didn't care for it. And the Bill was withdrawn.

Swiftly Whitehall put together some new proposals, imaginatively entitled the Local Government Planning and Land (No.2) Bill. It became law, transforming the financial framework within which Local Authorities work.

Within a year Whitehall was back with the punitive Local Government Finance Bill.

So many M.P.s doubted the constitutional wisdom of the referendum clause, the Bill was withdrawn within a month.

Now, for the fourth time in two years, the legislators are back. With (wait for it) the Local Government Finance (No.2) Bill.

And even as this Bill is about to become fixed in law, there is already in existence a

Government Green Paper outlining radical changes to the financing of Local Government.

The conclusion is that Whitehall is in too much of a hurry.

We believe this latest Bill should at least have a time limit imposed on it.

So that it can be replaced or abandoned once all parties are agreed on the proper relationship between Central and Local Government. And upon a new rating system.

To quote G.W. Jones and J.D. Stewart (Professors of Government, and Local Government respectively),

Whitehall's "record is amazing: four bills in two years; two bills withdrawn; three major changes in intention; and a grant system that is not merely complex beyond belief but contradictory in purposes."

Is this the right way to legislate?

If you think not, write to your

M.P. Ask him to voice the demand for a time limit on the Bill.

**KEEP IT
local**

THE ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN AUTHORITIES, 36 OLD QUEEN STREET LONDON SW1 9JE THIS ADVERTISEMENT HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN AUTHORITIES, REPRESENTING A LARGE NUMBER OF ENGLISH LOCAL AUTHORITIES, IN THE BELIEF THAT YOU SHOULD BE KEPT INFORMED.

The voters who will decide Roy Jenkins's fate

Roy Jenkins's political future depends on the 40,086 electors of Hillhead. As weekend polls show his support slipping, Ian Bradley analyses this key constituency and Nicholas Wapshott visits its constituents

The Glasgow Hillhead constituency encompasses an area of striking social contrasts. It stretches from the grimy shipbuilding and engineering works on the banks of the Clyde to the elegant and spacious Victorian villas of Kelvinside. In between there is an area of housing mostly occupied by single people, many of them students at Jordanhill teachers' training college, Glasgow University, which lies just outside the eastern boundary.

No other parliamentary constituency has a higher proportion of electors with qualifications for university entrance and Hillhead ranks 19th among Britain's 623 constituencies in the size of its professional middle class, more than three times the national average. It has twice the proportion of owner occupiers of Glasgow as a whole and, with eight independent schools within its boundaries, Hillhead has half of all the city's private school places.

In these respects Glasgow Hillhead is a very different constituency from Warrington where Roy Jenkins first tried to secure his comeback into the House of Commons. Nearly two thirds (63.1 per cent) of those who live in Hillhead are in non-manual occupations, compared to only just over a quarter (26.8 per cent) of the population of Warrington. Hillhead has a higher proportion of owner occupiers (46.9 per cent) compared to 36.1 per cent and a smaller proportion of council tenants (22.7 per cent compared to 40.1 per cent).

Yet Hillhead cannot be regarded as a typical middle-class residential constituency. Alongside the affluence and privilege of some parts there is considerable squalor in others. About a quarter of Hillhead's 20,000 households either lack or have

to share with others basic facilities like hot water and a bath. One in ten is without its own inside lavatory. More than 20 per cent of the housing in the constituency is classified as severely overcrowded, compared to a national average of less than two per cent.

The map below, which has been drawn on the basis of data supplied by CACI market analysis division using the ACORN classification of statistics from the 1971 census, shows very clearly the disparate nature of Glasgow Hillhead. The four wards which make up the constituency each have their own very different characteristics. Scotstoun, which occupies the south western quarter and includes most of the factories along the Clyde, is predominantly a working-class area. Just under half of its 11,541

electors are council tenants. It is traditional Labour territory and in the last district council elections in 1980 was the only ward in Hillhead to return a Labour councillor.

Partick West, with 10,098 electors, is a more mixed residential area. More than half of its houses are in owner occupation and just under a quarter are rented from the council. Its proximity to Glasgow University makes it a natural student bed-sitter area.

Anniesland, geographically the biggest ward in the constituency, is the smallest in population terms with 9,048 electors. Nearly half the area is covered by playing fields and public parks and it also includes two of Glasgow's largest hospitals, the Royal and the General. Nearly three quarters (72 per cent) of its houses are in owner occupation and

only 15 per cent are rented from the council.

Kelvinside, which occupies the extreme western segment of the constituency, is the most socially exclusive. More than three quarters of its 9,399 electors are owner occupiers, the majority living in the spacious Victorian mansions in the streets just off the Great Western Road which have always been a favourite area for Glasgow's academic and professional community.

GENERAL ELECTION RECORD

	% of vote gained			
	Cons	Lab	Lib	SNP
Feb 1974	44	24.4	20.3	11.3
Oct 1974	37.1	28.2	11.9	22.8
May 1979	41.4	34.4	14.4	10.1

Commonsense or a carpetbagger?

The loyal Tory



Jean Morton, in her fifties, of 17 Stonefield Avenue, a semi, fronted by a walled garden, married to a successful building sales rep. President of the Townswomen's Guild and member of the community council. Lapsed Tory party member. One son, one daughter, both at Glasgow University.

"I shall certainly be voting Tory. What worries me is that the vote will be split and Labour will get in. I shall be going to see Roy Jenkins speak. He is a clever man and has a lot of experience, but I don't think that his party really know where they are going. He doesn't know much about Glasgow. I would rather have someone who comes from Glasgow. When all's said and done, I think he's Labour. That's the point. I am not happy about the unemployment. My husband lost his job this year and he had to spend several months working at what he was not used to, but he got another, so I think things must be picking up. I quite admire Mrs Thatcher for sticking to her guns. And I do think the unions needed sorting out. But I think that her voice is very unfortunate. It is the price of things that you have to pay, like rates, which is worrying. I think we should be in the EEC. To leave would be as ridiculous as nationalism. I have been trying to find out how my husband is going to vote. He usually votes Tory but he may vote for Roy Jenkins because he thinks he is clever. I think if Shirley Williams had been standing I might have voted for her."

The SDP convert



Elsa MacFarlane, in her forties, of 25 Clevedon Gardens, an elegant detached 1920s family house in a prosperous road which boasts the Tory candidate and Sir Alexander Gibson, conductor of the Scottish National Orchestra. Infant teacher and former nurse.

"I have always voted Tory except in 1964. I am half Welsh. I think it would have mattered if Roy Jenkins was English, because Scots who dislike the English really just dislike the English. I would have voted for the SDP-Liberal Alliance whoever the candidate was. It didn't used to matter much which of the main parties was voted in, but those days have long gone. Britain is now way out politically in Europe. We are stuck in the nineteenth century and it is unfair that parties with small majorities should make such radical changes. I am a believer in proportional representation. That's the main thing. I think that unemployment would have risen irrespective of the colour of the government, but what I disliked about the Tories was the right wing attitude — that it jolly well served them right. A lot of unemployed people are jolly nice people trying to find work. We have middle class friends put out of work with businesses folding. I don't believe in monetarism and I think that it has shown that it doesn't work. I got my husband into the SDP. One day I came back with a whole lot of people, the sort of people you are happy to have in your home."

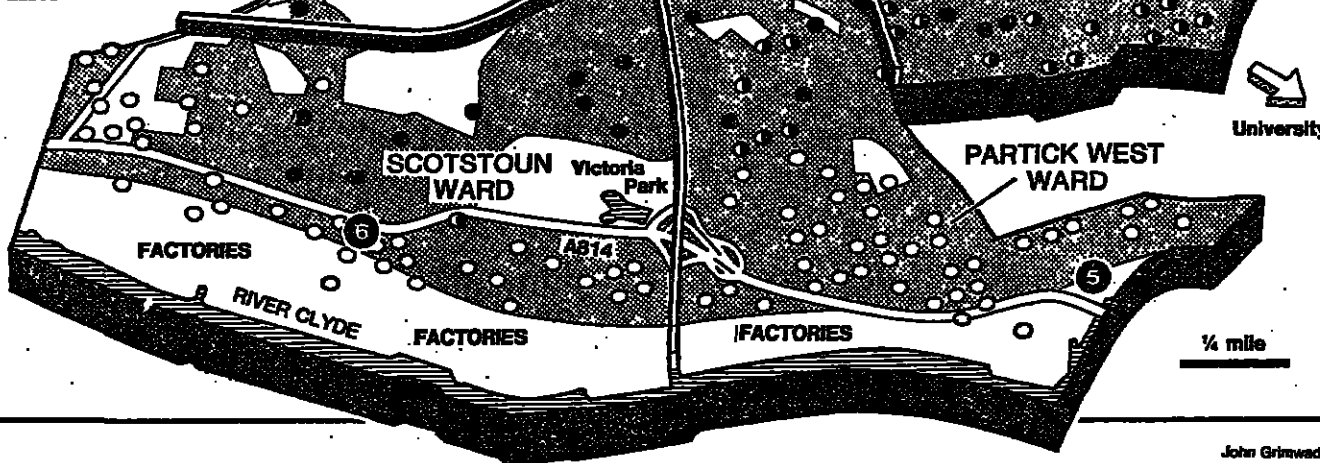
THE CONSTITUENCY

- BUILT-UP AREAS
- High status owner-occupied housing
- Owner-occupied, students and retired people
- Multi-occupied, with overcrowding and council housing

Each dot represents one census enumeration district (i.e. 150 households)

THE CANDIDATES

- William George Books: Public Safety, Democratic Monarchist, White Resident
- Nicolette Anne Carlew: Glasgow Ecology Party
- Jack Glass: Protestant Crusade Against The Papal Visit
- Roy Harold Jenkins: Social Democratic Party
- Right Honourable Roy Harris Jenkins: Social Democratic/Liberal Alliance
- George Laidlaw: Scottish National Party
- Gerald Malone: Conservative
- David Paul Wiseman: Labour

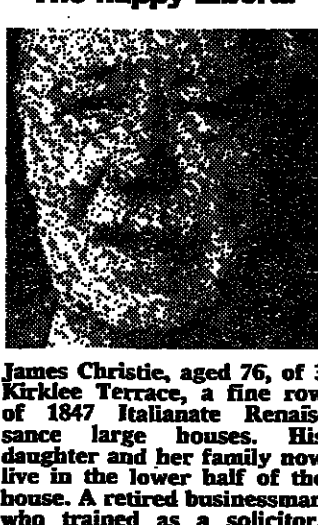


HOW GLASGOW VOTED

General Election May 1979

- LABOUR
- CONSERVATIVE

The happy Liberal



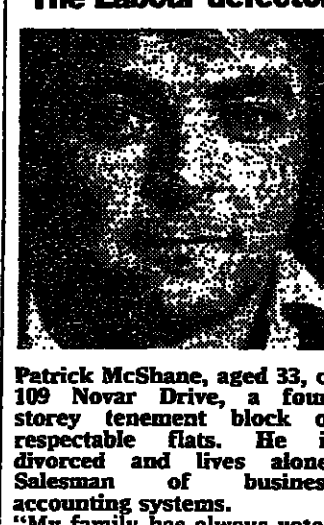
James Christie, aged 76, of 3 Kirkcaldy Terrace, a fine row of 1847 Italianate Renaissance large houses. His daughter and her family now live in the lower half of the house. A retired businessman who trained as a solicitor.

worked during the war on the staff of Lord Dudley, then managed a succession of businesses. He has three grandchildren.

"When I was very young I voted solidly for the Conservatives. Now I have become rather disenchanted with them and have been voting Liberal again. I stand in a queue at the local post office with the old people collecting their pensions. They are having a very hard time of it. I am paid my state pension three-monthly and all of it goes on heating, the phone and the rates. I think the Tories started off on the right lines, but their financial policies are too inflexible. I am supporting Roy through my Liberal allegiance. I was most impressed by his Dimbleby Lecture which I thought expressed good common sense. I have no

qualms at all. I am not so sure I would have supported another candidate. Glasgow needs an outstanding figure and Roy Jenkins's experience could stand us in very good stead. We're a clanish crowd, you know, and it is good to know that if elected he will have a residency in the constituency. I have heard the word carpetbagger used about Roy and I have always said, what about Scots like Willie Whitelaw, Andrew Faulds and Teddy Taylor in English seats. We're all British. I think the Alliance could be good for the country. We ought to give it a chance. We had a group of about 12 professors, managing directors and so on around to meet Roy and Lord Harris and they were all most impressed with his answers to some very pressing questions."

The Labour defector



Patrick McShane, aged 33, of 109 Novar Drive, a four-storey tenement block of respectable flats. He is divorced and lives alone. A salaried systems analyst. "My family has always voted

Labour at every election before. Now I am definitely going to vote SDP. I just think that the Labour Party has gone too far left for my particular taste. I was a member for a short time and would call myself a socialist but I just do not think it is a party of people any more. I would return to them if they changed their ways. I agree with their objectives but it is just their way of going about it. Nothing in this country is going to happen overnight unless you have a revolution. I want to see a Labour government in power but not with this kind of leadership. I do not think the Tories in Roy Jenkins is a man I have always admired. I think the Labour Party could have made a lot more use of him. I do not mind that he is not a Scot. That parochial attitude doesn't interest me at all. I would have voted for the Liberal or for the Alliance candidate whoever it was. It is because the two major parties are too extreme. Most people want a middle of the road and that is what the SDP has to offer."

The solid socialist



Victor Simmons, aged 64, of 9 Walker Court, a modern brick-built corporation (council) tenement house. A carpenter who has spent the last three years off work through rheumatism. Born in Wales, trained in London and moved to Glasgow in 1946. Married to a Scot who cleans at the local police station. When in work he could command about £125 an hour. Lived for 22 years in a corporation tenement flat before being rehoused. "I am certainly going to vote Labour again this time. The first time I voted Labour was in the thirties and I have voted Labour every time since. That is one of the reasons I won't be voting for anyone else. I have voted Labour all my born days. I have admired a number of

The steadfast Scot



Tam Connelly, aged 24, of 16 Earl Street, a long dismal road of run-down tenements. He is a sales consultant for a builders merchants and lives with his wife Margaret, a stove designer for Mothercare, and two sons, aged nine and eight, in a two-roomed flat. Sitting room and kitchen turn into bedrooms at night. They are buying it and have no prospect of a larger corporation house in the district.

"I shall be voting for the SNP. For too long we have been treated like a second rate nation. Everything goes to London. You get cheap fares and good housing. Here it costs a fortune to go into the city centre. I think Scotland has been forgotten about. There's no use voting Labour. They have always been in here and look at it. What happened to all the taxes on oil and whisky? It doesn't come here. When the general election is on they start thinking of Scotland. I don't think Roy Jenkins should have come up here. What does he know about Glasgow? What does he know of Hillhead or Scotstoun? If I spoke to him he would have to ask for a translation. I think a local man would have done better. He's just using us for his own career."

Libya seeks new link with Europe

From David Blow, Vienna, March 14

Libya wants to enter into a new relationship with Europe, Dr Bruno Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor said at a press conference shortly after the departure from Vienna of Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader yesterday.

He said that the controversial four-day visit had been arranged long before the recent tensions between Libya and the United States and described the State Department's protest on Friday to the Austrian ambassador in Washington as a mild criticism, adding that criticism was something everyone had to put up with.

Dr Kreisky said of Colonel Gaddafi's "stirring attack" on the United States, in which he had called him a terrorist and likened him to Hitler, that he did not like this kind of talk.

Mr William Pahr, the Austrian Foreign Minister, who is in Washington on a private visit is expected to discuss Colonel Gaddafi's visit to Austria at a meeting on Monday with Mr Walter Stuessel, the Deputy Secretary of State.

A joint statement released yesterday evening included an implicit criticism of the oil embargo imposed on Libya last week by the United States.

For some time now Colonel Gaddafi has been signalling his interest in closer ties with Western Europe. Dr Kreisky saw this as an opportunity for Austria, as a neutral Western state, to play a mediatory role similar to the one it has played in East-West relations.

The Chancellor also confirmed that the question of supplying arms to Libya had been discussed and said that the Austrian Government would probably agree to this as long as Libya was not

Liberals routed at polls

From Douglas Aiton, Melbourne, March 14

At a time when the Government desperately needed a boost, the Lowe by-election in New South Wales yesterday was a disaster.

Although the Liberals could hardly have expected to win the seat, the swing against them of around 8 per cent may be the beginning of a trend that could throw them out of office in the 1983 election.

An opinion poll published last week showed that the personal popularity of Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, was down 5 per cent to 32 per cent. The Government coalition would have won 42 per cent of the votes cast at a general election, while the Labour Party would have won with 48 per cent.

The Lowe disaster will add to the panic within Government circles.

The seat was held for 32 years by Sir William McMahon, a former Prime Minister, who recently and unexpectedly retired. Despite an enormous personal following, he had only just retained the seat in the last election, so that it was not surprising that the Labour candidate, Mr Michael Maher, should defeat the Mr Philip Taylor. But for the Government, the margin is horrifying. It is now conceivable that there could be a challenge to Mr Fraser's leadership.

There is an election in the state of Victoria on April 3 and even though Melbourne is the centre of Liberal Party power — they have held Victoria since 1955 — all the indications are that Labour will win with ease.

This would cause great unease throughout the Liberal Party, and at least question the wisdom of leaving Mr Fraser in power.

Unrest in Pakistan

Murder protest crushed

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad, March 14

Mr Abdul Wali Khan, the former leader of the opposition, and his wife, were among 11 people arrested in Peshawar early today to prevent them from holding a protest meeting over the murder of Arab Sikhander Khan Khalil, former governor of the North-West frontier.

Another 50 people were later arrested for planning to hold the meeting. Mr Sikan-dar Khan Khalil was shot dead in his native village on the outskirts of Peshawar a week ago by someone believed to have been influenced by right wing elements to kill secular politicians, especially those opposed to Pakistan's policy towards Afghanistan.

It is reported that despite elaborate police precautions against the meeting being held in the Chowk Yagdar in the heart of city, several hundred protesters adopted a resolution condemning the assassination and demanding an impartial inquiry. The police said to have used tear



gas shells and bamboo sticks to drive away the protesters. The arrests follow increasing student unrest in Sind, Punjab and the North West frontier and at a time when the martial law authorities have reportedly arrested and detained thousands of people for allegedly being subversive, antisocial and habitual criminals.

Nineteen people arrested in raids on hideouts in Karachi and Sind are accused of

wanting to damage the nuclear power plant at Karachi. In Rawalpindi two students were reported killed when rival groups exchanged fire. Schoolteachers in Punjab have been on strike for eight days and police today prevented them from leading a protest march in Rawalpindi. University and college teachers in Lahore are also reported to have been on strike for some time pressing for better wages and working conditions.

Sections of the press in Pakistan have been speculating about the general election being held in the next few months. The Government appointed a new chief election commissioner in place of the former who died a few days ago and he has held a meeting of the Election Commission.

Reports from the commission told the Government that it was ready to carry out its duty of holding an election in 90 days if directed to do so by the Government.

Getting up a head of steam

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, March 14

The Presidents of Tanzania and Zambia, at a weekend meeting in Lusaka, agreed on steps to improve the operations of the Chinese-built Tazara railway, which links the two countries.

Congestion and frequent breakdowns have reduced the railway's movements to a fraction of planned capacity. These bottlenecks have restricted the Zambian copper exports, and prevented Tanzania, which is now experiencing serious food shortages, from importing maize from Zimbabwe.

No details of the new plans have been announced but

they are understood to include agreement on providing badly-needed finance from both countries, despite shortages of foreign exchange.

Tanzania has had to appeal for international food aid to counter the risk of widespread famine, caused partly by drought and partly by breakdowns in internal distribution.

Substantial offers of food have been made by the World Food Programme, the United States, the European Economic Community and other donors. But Tanzania's internal transport problems, rang-

ing from inefficiency in the port of Dar es Salaam to lack of spare parts for trains and lorries, are slowing shipments.

The 1,155-mile railway which runs from northern Zambia to Dar es Salaam, linking with the Zambian and Zimbabwe rail systems, could be used to move surplus maize from Zimbabwe, but it is already so fully stretched much further afield to meet with its immediate needs.

The Tazara railway was completed by Chinese engineers in 1975 and is now run by a joint authority

Sentence dilemma at Dozier trial

From Peter Nichols, Rome, March 14

The trial of the 16 alleged members of the Red Brigades, accused of kidnapping Brigadier-General James Dozier, is due to recommence tomorrow in Verona.

The first hearing was on March 8, but the defence requested more time to study the 1,000 pages of evidence was granted. The American general was kidnapped on December 1, 1978, from a "people's prison" in Padua on January 28.

He was the first non-Italian to fall victim to the terrorists, and was released after a dramatic rescue. Five of the accused were arrested in the house where the general was held. Another two defendants will be in court, while the remainder are still being hunted.

The trial is remarkable for the speed with which it has taken place, but a number of developments in the struggle against terrorism since the general's release give new interest to the proceedings, quite apart from the verdict.

The first concern is one of the principal accused, Signor Antonio Savasta. He is said to have been responsible for 17 murders and several other kidnappings.

Since his arrest he has given valuable information to the authorities, including an account of how members of the Red Brigades murdered Signor Aldo Moro, the former Prime Minister, in May 1978, and of his own part in the killing of an industrialist kidnapped near Venice.

Investigators say that Savasta's confessions led to the arrests of 100 presumed terrorists, and the discovery of several of their bases. The court will have to decide what extent a man responsible for 17 deaths should be given a light sentence because of his willingness to cooperate, and the value of his evidence.

One leading investigator said that he was entirely in favour of a light sentence for two reasons: information from captured terrorists was proving invaluable, while a murderer's life would be worth comparatively little after an early release.

A government Bill laying down conditions for granting lighter sentences in exchange for concessions is meeting trouble in Parliament.

The second development concerns allegations by more than one of the accused that they have been tortured by the police. One of the best known investigating magistrates dealing with terrorism, Signor Gian Carlo Cassella, has called for full clarification of these alleged cases of systematic torture. The state must be seen to be acting in a thoroughly democratic way, he said.

The final point concerns the bitter comparisons being made between the speed with which this trial is being conducted, and the failure so far to clear up any of the main crimes for which the extreme right is held responsible.

This has brought another leading investigator to the view that extremism of the right is more dangerous than that of the far left. He maintains that the right-wing extremists can count on support from apparently respectable sources.

□ The Pope made an appeal for the release of two Italian kidnap victims in an address to pilgrims in St Peter's square today (AP reports). Signor Felice Martelli, a pharmacist from Locri, in southern Italy, and Signor Antonio Masturzo, a businessman from Naples, were kidnapped in separate incidents last year.

Police say that kidnap gangs are still holding 15 people to ransom in Italy.

How many more Cubas on Reagan's horizon?

Nicholas Ashford examines the unappealing options for the US in the volatile region of Central America

"The Reagan Administration is in danger of painting itself into a corner in Central America," remarked a Mexican diplomat after the meeting in New York last weekend between Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and his Mexican counterpart, Mr Jorge Castañeda. "It is attaching too much importance to the outcome of this month's elections in El Salvador. Those elections are unlikely to solve anything, and may only make matters worse."

Unlike many critics of US policy in Central America, the diplomat was not gloating over the Administration's dilemma as it finds itself being sucked into deeper military and political involvement in the region. Mexico, after all, has an even greater interest than the US in seeing peace and order established. Mexico's southern border adjoins Guatemala, where a combination of guerrilla warfare and brutal officially-backed death squads have produced a death toll as high as in neighbouring El Salvador. And in the view of some US experts, Mexico, with its huge oil reserves, is the ultimate target of the Soviet and Cuban-supported insurgency.

The US and Mexico—which has emerged under the moderate leadership of President Jose Lopez Portillo as a major regional power—have sharply differing interpretations about the nature of the unrest which is spreading through Central America and the Caribbean region. The US ascribes most of the trouble to Marxism, with Cuba being the principal offender and the left-wing Sandinista government in Nicaragua acting as its proxy. Mexico, on the other hand, believes the Central American mini-states are undergoing the national revolutions which swept through Europe in the nineteenth century. Most of these countries have been the victims of ruthless dictatorships which squandered their assets and suppressed human rights. Most of these regimes were supported or in some cases even installed by the US.

America's role in the region in the past has been an auspicious one. In the name of anti-communism (and to protect the interests of American

concerns such as the United Fruit Company) it helped overthrow the reformist government of President Jacobo Arbenz in Guatemala in 1954, failed to dislodge the Castro regime in Havana during the Bay of Pigs fiasco in 1961 and intervened militarily in Dominica in 1965. It also helped bring down the democratically elected government of President Allende of Chile in 1973, an event which continues to stir deep emotions.

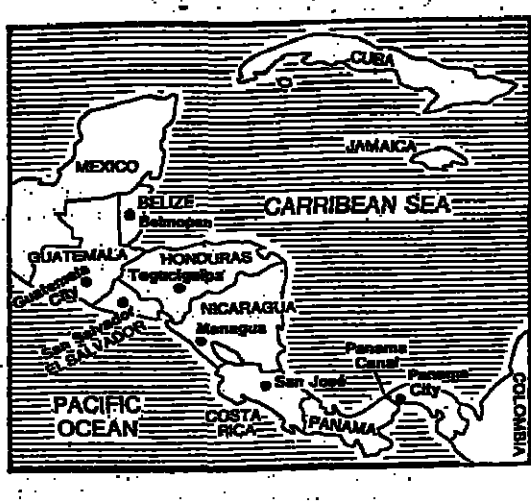
Mexico and the US also have differing views on how the problems of the region should be solved. Mexico believes in negotiation and mediation. In a recent major speech President Lopez Portillo proposed a negotiated settlement between the government of President Jose Napoleon Duarte and the left-wing guerrillas in El Salvador; a non-aggression pact between the US and Nicaragua; and talks to reduce tension between the US and Cuba. The US has so far shown little interest in the plan.

The Reagan Administration's approach is to confront the advancing forces of Marxism with a combination of cash, capitalism and military muscle. The Caribbean Basin plan which President Reagan recently unveiled is intended to inject \$350m more aid into the region, promote enterprise and making it easier for Central American and Caribbean countries to sell their produce in the US and strengthen the ability of the various armed forces to resist insurgency by pouring in \$640m worth of military aid, most of it to El Salvador.

The Reagan Administration's approach to Central America is based partly on what Mr Raymond Aron, the French political commentator, has described as "an ideology in search of a policy". From the outset the Administration wanted to demonstrate its desire to defeat communism and chose to "draw the line" in its own central American backyard.

But American policy has also been dictated by genuine concern about the possibility of a South-East Asian-style "Domino principle" taking place in Central America.

These concerns were recently summed up by Mr Thomas



President Reagan (left), and President Lopez Portillo of Mexico: diverging solutions to the region's problems

Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, during testimony before a congressional committee. He said: "There is no question that the decisive battle for Central America is under way in El Salvador. If, after Nicaragua, El Salvador is captured by a violent minority, who in Central America would not then live in fear? How long would it be before major strategic United States interests—the Panama Canal, sea lanes, oil supplies—were at risk?"

At the beginning in 1981 when Mr Reagan took office the civil-war military junta in El Salvador had scored an easy triumph over what the insurgents had described as their "final offensive". The Americans believed that with an infusion of military and economic aid they could consolidate President Duarte's position and thereby ensure the continuation of a regime which would be staunchly anti-communist but which would pursue mildly reformist policies. Such a move, they believed, would strengthen the resolve of other governments in the area which were coming under left-wing attack and would be a clear signal to Nicaragua to mend its ways.

However, the five guerrilla groups which comprise the Farabundo Marti National Liber-

ation Front in El Salvador proved more resilient than the Americans expected. They changed their tactics and started attacking power lines and other vital installations. By the beginning of this month sizeable parts of the country were under their control. Although their 6,000 fighters are outnumbered almost four to one by the regular forces, they have shown they can operate almost at will along the roads leading to the capital. And as the fighting gets heavier the death toll mounts — to a total now exceeding 20,000.

The guerrillas are still far from final victory, but American officials believe the ability of the Salvadoran armed forces to contain them is being rapidly eroded. Some officials doubt the military and economic aid will be enough to ensure the upper hand without a massive infusion of military equipment and combat troops as well.

The revolutionary fire which has been consuming El Salvador has spread elsewhere in Central America. In Guatemala, the richest and most populous country of the region, four guerrilla groups have recently united to fight against the repressive regime of President Romeo Lucas Garcia, whose record on human rights is among the worst in the world. No one knows for certain how many people have been

slaughtered but the figure ranges from the State Department's estimate of 300 a month to a total of 11,000 last year claimed by religious leaders.

The guerrilla wars in El Salvador and Guatemala have begun to spill across the border into Honduras, where a civilian president, Mr Roberto Somoza Cordova, was elected last December for the first time in 18 years. Salvadoran troops have made strikes into Honduras (reportedly with Honduran approval) against Salvadoran guerrillas moving clandestinely through the country on their way to and from Nicaragua. Relations with Nicaragua have become strained because the thousands of supporters of the former Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua have taken refuge in Honduras from where they carry out occasional cross-border raids.

The United States, believing that Honduras needs a strong army to defend itself, has made it the third largest recipient of military assistance in the hemisphere. This has raised fears that the power of the military will be increased and thereby undermine the fledgling civilian government.

The main problem facing Costa Rica is economic rather than political. The country is as much as \$100m in arrears in payments

on its national debt. The most democratic of all Central American countries, it recently elected a new civilian government. However, the authorities are deeply concerned about the unrest spreading throughout the region and recently there have been small outbreaks of terrorism.

Situated strategically in the middle of the Central American isthmus is Nicaragua, which President Reagan has described as a "base for the export of subversion and armed violence throughout Central America". The Administration maintains that Nicaragua is becoming "a Cuba on the American mainland." That it is not only supplying arms to the Salvadoran guerrillas but is actually helping to organize the insurgency there, and that Sandinistas are generally stirring up mischief in the region.

Last week the CIA released figures purporting to show that Nicaragua was arming itself far beyond its own defence requirements. According to the CIA's figures, the Sandinistas have a standing army of about 30,000 men equipped with tanks and helicopters. The nation's total military force, including militia, is nearly 70,000 easily the largest in Central America. Nicaraguans are being trained in Bulgaria and advanced jet fighters are to be delivered soon.

Mr Enders visited Managua last October in an attempt to patch up relations but his mission failed, each side accusing the other of bad faith.

Since then relations have grown steadily worse. Washington lost no opportunity to denounce alleged Nicaraguan support for revolutionary movements in Central America and for repressing the Miskito Indians living along the Nicaraguan-Honduran border. The Nicaraguans have become increasingly convinced the United States is planning to overthrow the Sandinista regime — fears which have been fuelled by recent American reports that the CIA had earmarked \$19m for covert operations against Nicaragua. What options remain for the Reagan Administration? They are few and none are very appealing. For the moment the United

States is still pinning its hopes on a convincing victory for President Duarte's Christian Democratic Party in the March 28 El Salvador elections. However, the chances of this happening dwindle each day as the guerrillas continue to step up their campaign to disrupt the poll.

The danger now confronting American policy-makers is that President Duarte will not gain a majority and be obliged to form a coalition with the extreme right-wing parties. Or worse, an ultra-rightist, such as Major Roberto d'Aubuisson, could emerge as outright victor. Either outcome would greatly increase congressional opposition to continued American aid.

Even a convincing Duarte victory would not end the war. To strengthen his hand the United States could send American troops to El Salvador, but so far the Administration has ruled this out. Recent opinion polls have shown that 89 per cent of Americans are opposed to United States involvement in El Salvador, a statistic which cannot be ignored just a few months before the United States congressional elections.

Another course would be to get a force comprising soldiers from other American nations, notably Argentina, to support the elected government. Senior Argentine officers have recently been in El Salvador and such a plan is understood to find favour with a number of right-wing Latin American regimes. But it would also provoke strong opposition elsewhere in the region and would almost certainly be rejected by Washington's two main partners in its plan to develop the Caribbean basin — Mexico and Venezuela.

In the end, therefore, the United States may find it necessary to take another look at President Lopez Portillo's plan for peace in the region. More than 100 congressmen have signed a letter to Mr Reagan urging him to do just that. But until — and unless — he does, the risk will remain that the United States, in the words of a Congressman who recently visited El Salvador, "could blunder deeper into an open-ended military commitment to a losing cause."

Consumer protection: the rabbit and the watchdog

Few people will know that today is the deadline for comments on the Government's Green Paper on consumer interests and the nationalized industries. Few indeed are aware that the Government ever published a Green Paper, which is not surprising as there has been virtually no general press comment. And there has been no press comment because there has been little to comment on except the Government's timidity and lack of interest in the industries' consumers.

According to its 1945 manifesto, the post-war Labour government wanted the fuel and power industries to be nationalized. Except that they could be "conducted efficiently in the interests of consumers". At one stage, Mr Attlee's Cabinet actually approved a plan for consumer boards to run the electricity industry. It backed off, and instead created the nationalized industries' consultative councils (NICCs).

Speeches in Parliament at the time of nationalization suggested that the councils were intended to be "live, virile bodies, actively pursuing the interests of consumers, expressing themselves if necessary forcibly on consumer interests, and not being fobbed off by those responsible for running the industry".

Furthermore, they were to "participate in the planning of electricity supply". The Conservative opposition of the time criticized them as ineffectual "zoo animals" which might get up on their hind legs and go through a few perfunctory jumps.

The need for nationalized industry consumer representation has not lessened. Over the past decade, the pro-

ductivity performance of the industries has generally been poor, and their costs have increased relative to private manufacturing and services. A 1978 Gallup poll found that the nationalized industries were the organizations over which fewest people felt they had any influence. During the past two years, energy prices have increased at twice the rate of private sector prices. And recently the electricity supply industry has shown itself not always reliable in providing accurate information about its activities.

Last year, for example, the Monopolies Commission, after an exhaustive inquiry, summed up the CEB's investment appraisal methods as "seriously defective, liable to mislead, and against the public interest". The Board has overstated the nuclear case and has permitted inadequate accounting practices that have exaggerated the performance of its shops. What have the electricity and other NICCs done in the face of monopoly knowledge and power?

The Government is critical of the performance of some of them. It says they "do not always exercise their functions as well as they might", they are not widely known, and that some are not cost-effective. There is also an implied criticism in the Green Paper that some NICC/industry relationships are too "cosy", and that some NICCs accept uncritically the views of their industries' management, rather than pursue the interests of consumers.

Even on the most charitable interpretation, no NICC can claim to have lived up to the ambition of participating in the planning of its industry, an ambition the industries have been pleased to thwart. The Government believes that the functions of the NICCs, especially that of handling complaints, must continue. But in addition, they should develop "a critical but constructive input" on costs and prices, encourage their industries to seek value for money, and experiment with "customer audits". It thinks they should have more punch, and talks of having streamlined and fewer, more authoritative councils. How does it propose to make the rabbits jump?

The Green Paper presents two options. One merely proposes thinning out the regional NICCs, reducing the number of members on them, and issuing guidelines and exhortations to perform. This is really a "do-nothing" approach. The second option, which requires legislation, would create three combined NICCs at national level, with subordinate regional operations matching the structure of the industries.

There would be one for the utility industries (gas, electricity, coal and water), a second for rail and the nationalized bus companies, and a third for posts and telecommunications. Bigger is not necessarily better. Combining NICCs to cover several utilities would probably overwhelm them, with a wider range of diverse problems than they could handle. It would also lead to internal "political" agreement on conflicting issues between the interests of different groups of consumers. And at regional level, the operating boundaries between the industries would present serious practical problems, as would the sharp variations in their size and customer populations.

Structures, however, are of secondary importance to obligations, powers and duties. These alone can convert rabbits into more fearsome animals, and make the industries more responsive to consumers. The Government tells us that "many users feel powerless in their dealings with nationalized industries, and may actually have more limited legal rights of redress than in their dealings with private firms". But it has made no proposals, such as giving arbitration powers to NICCs, similar to those of regulatory commissions in the USA, to remedy the imbalance. Nor does it discuss the pressing need for a statutory enactment of consumer rights in the nationalized industries, an area where American practice is well ahead of our own.

For example, New York

state has just enacted the Home Energy Fair Practices Act. This imposes on the utilities a statutory disconnection code that, on some occasions, is far more rigorous than anything we are likely to get by voluntary agreement here. Capitalist USA demands of its monopoly utilities more for consumers than we demand of ours, which are supposedly owned by and run for us.

The nationalized industries should only be run efficiently for consumers, but be seen to be so — if they are. Consumers have to pay for the mistakes of the monopoly industries that get no Exchequer subsidies: they should therefore have a statutory right to know what is going on in them, and not have to rely on the grace and favour of technological barons to decide which of our secrets they will share with us. And it is not just consumers from whom the industries hide their doings: they hide them from Parliament as well.

This Government deserves credit for some progress in exposing the performance of the nationalized industries to scrutiny. The Green Paper shows, however, that the Government has not addressed itself to the fundamental question of the responsibilities and accountability of the industries to their consumers, not to advancing the interests of consumers against monopoly power. The NICCs may jump a little more often, but rabbits they remain.

Alex Henney
The author is chairman of the London Electricity Consultative Council.

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We've been gassing for ages

New words and new meanings: by Philip Howard

We all know about four-letter words, though we prefer not to use them in print in *The Times*, unless we have overwhelming cause. I am indebted to John Harris for bringing to my attention a three-letter word that is similarly fraught with powerful magical and negative connotations. The word is not God, but gas.

The word did not evolve naturally, but was invented by van Helmont in the seventeenth century as the name for the occult principle that he supposed to be present in all bodies. He wrote of it from the Ancient Greek word "halitus" which Gas vocavi, non longe a Chaos veterum secretum. I have called this spirit gas, as being not far removed from the chaos of the ancients. Gas or its phonetic equivalent occurs in nearly every language on earth. In nearly every use it has a whiff of unpleasantness.

For some reason we throw in the word when we speak of vile substances in the gaseous state, even when that state is normal at ambient temperatures and pressures. We do not say copper solid, or alcohol liquid. We may say mercury vapour, because that is not its normal state. But listen to a barometer, or read a journalist concerned with Chlorine or Carbon Monoxide. Gas is always tacked on as a lurid suffix. Often the whole phrase is prefixed with a poisonous, to rub it in, although there is no form of

either substance that is not poisonous.

Notice the quaint way in which popular science books introduce the fact that the air we breathe is a gas — even, horror!, a mixture of gases — as much as to say that we are lucky to be alive at all. Gas at the dentist's adds to the

unpleasantness. Gas figuratively is boastful blarney. A gasbag is a prolix and empty boaster. Gas and gaiters, empty alliteration, are stuff and nonsense.

Gas's smelly reputation is probably derived from the use of "gas, mostly Chlorine, in the first war, and the quite unrelated gas gangrene". The army had a complete gas lexicon: gas courses, masks, capes, and officers. One gas, Phosgene, is notable in that it is a chemical compound of Chlorine and Carbon Monoxide, and the toxicity of all three belies the cosy notion sometimes encountered among unscientific donnish people that combinations of noxious substances are often harmless. According to the manuals, Phosgene smells like a rusty nut, but we wretched townies don't stand a chance with it — and the remedy for it is "sips of hot sweet tea".

It is difficult otherwise to find humour or poetry in the melancholy three-letter word. Erasmus Darwin, the granddaddy of evolution, tried in the only poem I know of to a gas, about the birth of KNO₃:
Hence orient Nitre owes its sparkling birth,
And with prismatic crystals gems the earth,
O'er tottering domes the flimsy foliage crawls,
Or frosts with branching plumesthe mould'ring walls;
As woos Azotic Gas the virgin Air,
And veils in crimson clouds the yielding fair.

Gas from the gasworks, and via gas holder and gasometer, is fairly free from the ancestral taint; except that the gas oven, before North Sea Gas, was a popular method of suicide. Gas lighting has an agreeably golden and flickering Victorian glow, but I suppose one could associate it with peacoupers, footfalls echoing behind one, and villainy.

Cases of assault sound more savage when done with a length of gas piping. The only positive uses of gas that occur to me, gassing away over an idle typewriter, come from the United States, where gas is the juice that makes cars go. To step on the gas is a cheerful act. What a gas, meaning what fun, may come from laughing gas.

peste-and-mortar distinction it has in some past editions, not because the food is less good, not as with Ma Cuisine, because the service is poor; but simply because it is difficult to get in. If the chefs Christopher Driver presumes to criticize apportioned their bit-bits in the arbitrary way he distributes awards, the comments in his book would be even more highly spiced and abusive than they are.

In the know

Should President Reagan want any advice on the detailed implications of the argument as to whether he should address Parliament in the Royal Gallery or in Westminster Hall, he can get it from his rebellious oldest daughter, Maureen. She was given a guided tour of both the possible venues by Lord Ponsonby, chairman of the London Convention Bureau, during her recent visit to London on honeymoon (her third) last April.

Quiz answers

1. The GLC has decided to paint blue lines red to ease traffic flow.
2. Diamond De Beers did not cut as profits slumped.
3. Michael Deaver, the White House deputy chief of staff, told a reporter that over a breakfast muffins about plans for President Reagan to address Parliament.
4. The oil companies secretly recommended to the Government last year that lead-free petrol should be introduced as soon as possible.
5. At the Carlton Club, where Maureen Thatcher unveiled a second portrait of herself.

PHS

THE TIMES DIARY

A little more about the inconveniences at the new Barbican Centre. On opening night a friend accompanying me could not get into the ladies' when she finally found the gent's instead.

On her way in she met Lady Antonia Fraser coming out. "That is the bravest thing I have done in my life", Lady Antonia exclaimed.

On a more harmonious note, I can report on a little PHS-led initiative which identified the source of the tier 2 squeaks, which were back again on Saturday night, giving Murray Perahia some superfluous accompaniment in Beethoven's first piano concerto. The squeaks are made by the bar shapers on levels 5 and 6 as staff wind them down.

The delegation of three who are coming here are Dr Ghulam Faruk Azam, director of political affairs for the moderate alliance of parties which profess broadly liberal and democratic views, including the monarchists; a pseudonymous "Mr Ghulam" whose family is still in Kabul, representing the fundamentalist parties; and Saba'uddin Kushki, a former editor and Minister of Information who was sacked when President Daoud deposed the king and was imprisoned when the communists killed Daoud.

The Afghanistan Support Committee, directed by our former ambassador, Piers Carter, is arranging for them to meet MPs and to be photographed with Margaret Thatcher.

Milk run

Unsummoned

The division bell has not stopped ringing in the Canadian House of Commons for the past two weeks. The clangour began on March 2 when the Conservative opposition moved an adjournment motion, left the Chamber, and then refused to come back to vote. Their boycott is to protest against the Liberal government's energy bill, which they want to be divided. The government refused to negotiate while the boycott continues. Attempts to muffle several

scores of bells ringing throughout the Parliament building mostly met with little success. One towel had to be removed from a bell it was intended to silence when it started to smoulder. After several days, to the relief of parliamentary staff, all but one of the bells was switched off. The one still jangling is in the Commons' chamber.

Mirror image

Peter Torry, my opposite number on the *Daily Mirror*, told his readers on Friday he imagined he might become a duke, since he is buying "a modest country house with a trout lake." Oh dear, PHS does not run to a goldfish pond yet. Indeed his back garden scarcely has room for a bird bath.

Pepys revisited

My distinguished precursor, Samuel Pepys, is to be revived for a leading role in a satirical play about the closure of Chatham dockyard, where he spent much of his time as Secretary to the Admiralty. Dockyard for Sale opens tomorrow at the Artie Theatre in the Gillingham adult education centre, as part of the Gillingham arts festival. It has Pepys revisiting Chatham and encountering Peggy Fenner, the local MP who said she could not support the Government but then joined it, and other present-day politicians. Pepys who was himself imprisoned in the Tower on a

Marc is on holiday for the next two weeks.

trumped-up charge of treason, decides in the play that the present Government should be arranged. Unlike him, they are brought to trial, and found guilty.

Something even more curious has happened to the style and honours of Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that Ilk, the Scottish genealogist. When he received the 1982 New Year honours, he was told that he was to be knighted, but as DVO. The misprint comes within a whisker of turning him into a Dame, though properly that would be DCVO.

Drive it, too

Do you fancy being mistaken for Harrods' cross-country delivery service? Then take £35,500 down to Knightsbridge, where the store is selling custom-built Range Rover in olive green and gold livery, with the Harrods name on the front wings. Each vehicle, fitted with all-terrain tyres, has stereo radio and cassette recorder, a shooting lug, and an umbrella, matching luggage and optional colour television, a video cassette recorder and camera, and a folding 48cc motor cycle, "ideal for getting from the car park to the yacht." Or for running about with the smaller parcels.

No entry

At last the *Good Food Guide* is officially published, and PHS can reveal the grossest of all the injustices in its pages. The Old Woolhouse at Northleach in Gloucestershire is denied the

POVERTY

A consortium of the...
York Times...
name in Iran...
very curious...
would bring...
that H...
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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE TURN OF THE SCREW

The American Administration is trying to bring about a major change in western policy towards trade with the Soviet bloc. This is the significance of the visit to Europe by a delegation led by Mr James Buckley, Undersecretary of State for Security Affairs, who will be in London on Wednesday. His mission is to persuade the Europeans to join in a systematic and coordinated policy of trying to put economic pressure on the Soviet Union and eastern Europe, largely by tightening up on credits. According to the president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, the new policy "could be likened to a strategy of economic warfare. It is an attempt to turn around most of the basic assumptions which have lain behind east-west trade since the early seventies."

At that time there was positive political encouragement for trade with the Soviet bloc because it was expected to contribute to stability by opening the Soviet Union to the outside world and drawing the Russians into a network of interdependent relations with the West. Mr Reagan's Administration came into office with the conviction that this policy had failed. It argued that the policy had merely put the West off its guard while the Soviet Union continued to build up its military power and extend its influence around the globe, aided by western credits and technology, which had also enabled the Soviet Union to escape from the need to reform its system. At the same time, so the argument goes, western credits to eastern Europe had delayed reforms there too, overextended the western banking system, and enabled some east European countries to use their cheap labour to compete unfairly in western markets with goods made under western licence.

This argument contains a good deal less than the whole truth. The fact that some Americans deluded themselves into expecting the Russians to show voluntary restraint is more a criticism of the Americans than of the Russians, who made their definition of détente perfectly clear. The West's failure to operate a coherent policy of détente does not necessarily prove that the concept was wrong, merely that its execution was flawed. Secondly, the Soviet Union's interest in relations with the West did in fact influence its behaviour in a number of ways, most notably with regard to Jewish emigration. Thirdly, the overgenerous extension of western credits to eastern Europe has at least had the effect of making the area more dependent on the West than it has ever been, which ought to open opportunities for Western influence. Finally, the exposure of the whole Soviet

block to western contacts has sowed all kinds of seeds which cannot easily be rooted out.

Nevertheless, the Reagan Administration is not all wrong to take a new look at economic relations. In the early seventies it was assumed that Soviet dependence on western trade was so limited, and its level of self-sufficiency so high, that any western attempts to use trade as a political lever would either have no effect at all or merely drive the Soviet Union back into resentful autarky. And as for the alleged western contribution to Soviet military power, it has been estimated that the Soviet Union may perhaps have gained as much as half of one per cent of annual economic growth from western technology. There seemed, therefore, to be no point in denying western firms the benefits of export orders for the sake of a marginal or negative effect on Soviet policy.

Recently, however, the mounting economic troubles of the Soviet bloc have made it more tempting to try using trade as a political lever. The Soviet growth rate is declining steadily, its earnings of hard currency from oil are dropping, its standard of living is increasingly wretched, the burden of eastern Europe and other foreign commitments gets heavier all the time, and it is now having to spend more hard currency than ever on buying grain. It therefore becomes easier to argue that if the West could deny it easy credits and reduce still further its hard currency earnings, especially by denying it the huge benefits of selling natural gas to western Europe, it might be forced to think again about its defence spending and its global ambitions.

There are, however, a number of very big problems. The main one is that western Europe is very unenthusiastic about declaring economic war on the Soviet bloc. Its stake in east-west trade is very much bigger than that of the United States. West Germany alone accounts for about 25 per cent of the OECD's trade with the United States for only nine per cent. Moreover, 80 per cent of American deliveries are in grain, whereas about 80 per cent of west European deliveries are industrial goods. Economic sanctions against the east therefore cost Europe a great deal more, especially as the Americans refuse to include grain, arguing that it costs the Soviet Union hard currency, whereas the pipeline does the opposite.

Europe badly needs the jobs which east-west trade provides, and badly needs Soviet raw materials and energy. Soviet gas is particularly necessary to lessen European dependence on the unstable Middle East. To the argument that it makes them dangerously dependent on the

Soviet Union, the West Germans reply that it would contribute only five-to-six per cent of their total energy, so that the threat of cut-off could be survived — probably more easily than the Soviet Union could survive the loss of hard currency.

To the argument that the hard currency contributes to the military and economic strength of a hostile power the answers are more complex and varied. One is that east-west trade is part of the world economic system and cannot be tampered with except at the cost of wide repercussions. Moreover, European security depends as much on the stability of western societies as on military defence, so that it would be foolish to impose greater economic stress on western Europe for the sake of possibly marginal and certainly unpredictable effects on the Soviet Union. Another argument is that the answer to Soviet power is not to weaken the Soviet Union but to strengthen the response of the West and of other threatened regions. Europeans tend to see the Soviet Union as taking advantage of trouble spots rather than causing them, so that western policy should be aimed more at reducing regional tensions than at confronting the Soviet Union.

Apart from European objections, the other main obstacle in the way of the new American policy is the practical difficulty of organizing a collection of competing countries, many of them outside Nato, into a common front against the Soviet Union. Trade embargoes are almost always circumvented by someone, and even if they are not the belief that they will reduce the incentive to observe them. Credit restrictions are similarly difficult to enforce. The OECD has a consensus on minimum interest rates, but the Japanese, who have low domestic rates, often undercut them, and the French and others sometimes do so. There are few sanctions which can be taken against dissidents in this area without causing general chaos.

It would, however, be wrong to succumb to total helplessness. The time has certainly come for tighter credit policies towards the Soviet bloc. Soviet behaviour deserves no commercial generosity, and even on purely commercial grounds it is not such a good proposition as it was. Indeed, it is already suffering a significant credit squeeze for this reason alone. Western governments should, therefore, respond to Mr Reagan's policy by looking coolly for realistic ways of demonstrating to the Soviet Union that the days of politically motivated trade are over, and that it cannot expect commercial favours from the West unless it shows more consideration for the political interests of the West.

POVERTY MAKES STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

A consortium of friends and supporters of the Khomeini regime in Iran would make a very curious gathering. It would bring together President Hafiz al-Assad of Syria, whose foreign minister is currently visiting Tehran with a large retinue of officials, and Mr Menachem Begin, whose country — according to Western intelligence sources quoted by the *New York Times* — is now supplying about half Iran's imports of arms, spare parts and ammunition. Colonel Gaddafi of Libya would be there, along with the leaders of the militant Shiite organization in Lebanon, Amal, who have not forgiven Gaddafi for the mysterious disappearance of their "Imam" Musa Sadr, in Libya in 1978. President Kim Il Sung of North Korea might find himself seated next to a British delegate, who could be either a director of Talbot or a salesman from the Ministry of Defence offering to repair some Chieftain tanks.

Presumably there would also be someone from the Soviet Union, but he would have to be carefully refolding his copy of *Pravda* so that the conclusion of a recent article, calling for good-neighbourly links between Iran and the Soviet Union, was visible but not the body of the text with its long litany of complaints about Iranian policy. America, for obvious reasons, would not be represented by American diplomats but might perhaps send a message of good will through President Evren of Turkey, whose government last week concluded what was described by

the Iranian minister who signed it, Mr Behzad Nabavi, as probably the biggest barter deal ever concluded between Iran and any other country.

A similar gathering for Iraq, of course, would be even better attended and much less futile. The "moderate" Arab heads of state, from King Hussein to King Khalid, would be there in force. Mr John Nott would probably be there in person, not merely offering to repair captured Iranian Chieftains but urging the merits of the Hawk as a training aircraft. Of course, he would say, it will not be available for a year or two, and the war with Iran may not last that long, but it could still come in awfully useful for destroying Kurdish villages, and, given the incurably insubordinate character of the Kurds, Iraqi governments are likely to go on wanting it for that purpose for a long time yet. (The RAF, with rather more primitive aircraft, used to carry out the same task on behalf of King Faisal's government back in the 1920s.) But Mr Nott would be elbowing aside by his French colleague, M Charles Hernu, who would come with armfuls of howitzers, tanks and electronic military equipment, as well as glossy brochures for the Mirage 2000.

It would be tactless, for anyone at such a gathering to mention a few unpleasant facts: for instance, that the Iranian people are being oppressed by a bloody, reactionary and chaotic regime which by its own

admission has executed thousands for political crimes; or that the Iraqi regime, while rather better organized, is no less ruthless, has deported large numbers of Kurds from their homeland to other parts of the country and large numbers of second-or-third-generation Iraqi residents across the border to Iran, with only the clothes that stand up in, and is moreover the aggressor in the war with Iran; that both regimes have been accused by Amnesty International of the widespread and systematic use of torture.

Such facts would be out of place in a gathering of serious international statesmen, who have, after all, to consider the effects on unemployment in the West Midlands as well as the geopolitical implications of the wrong superpower gains influence with one or other of the dictators. Human rights are out of fashion. But should they be? Are workers in Vickers or the Royal Ordnance Factories better off today because their talents were harnessed to satisfying the megalomania of the late Shah? Have Soviet ambitions been checked in Iran by the West's willingness to support the Shah, ignoring the human rights of his subjects, until those subjects rose up en masse to throw him and his foreign friends out of the country? Are cynicism and realism necessarily synonymous, or is it not time we made a serious effort to avoid being the accomplices of despotism and aggression in the Middle East?

Archbishop's voice silenced

From the Reverend Dr R. T. Kendall

Sir, There are not a few Protestants in this country who are less than enamoured with the coming visit of Pope John Paul II but who, none the less, bow their heads in shame over the manner in which certain people acted when the Archbishop of Canterbury tried to speak in Liverpool (report, March 12).

If somebody thinks that robbing the Archbishop of free speech sets back any progress with regard to the Pope's visit, let it be equally said that such disgraceful behaviour as all of us witnessed recently by these protesters also sets back, perhaps even more so, the witness of the doctrine of Justification by Faith — which is what Protestantism is really all about.

Sincerely,
R. T. KENDALL,
Westminster Chapel,
Buckingham Gate, SW1,
March 12.

From the Reverend G. B. Timms
Sir, I have always understood that brawling in church was not only vulgarly discourteous but also a contravention of the law. It is surely time that such outrages as have recently been witnessed in Liverpool should no longer be tolerated and action be taken against them.

I remember that in the fifties it was only when similar Protestant brawlers in our parish churches were proceeded against and fined that their then frequent disruption of Anglican worship quickly ceased.

Yours faithfully,
G. B. TIMMS,
Cleave Lodge,
Buckingham Gate, SW1,
Minster-in-Thames,
Ramsgate, Kent.

From the Reverend Ian Falconer
Sir, Those Protestants who shouted down the Archbishop of Canterbury in Liverpool Parish Church must be congratulated on their fine example to the youth of the Church.

Yours sincerely,
IAN G. FALCONER,
St Martin's Church,
Sinclair Road,
Hammersmith, W14,
March 12.

From Mr A. E. G. Wright
Sir, Your correspondent, Edward Shackleton (March 11) of the *Nation* writes that the more he reads of the shocking behaviour of the protesters at the recent Festival of Light, he really imagines that "sex shops... undermine national character more than anything else can do" at this time of nuclear threat, political instability, three million unemployed and mounting evidence of widespread malpractice in the police, police and prison services and of financial recklessness in commerce.

If too many people nowadays believe that morality is merely an out-of-date system of mainly puritanical prohibitions, mainly designed to stop ordinary people having fun while the more unscrupulous get away with murder (sometimes literally), then I fear that this may in large measure be due to the topsyturvy values of the likes of Mr Shackleton.

Yours faithfully,
A. E. G. WRIGHT,
90 Uxbridge Road, N8.

From Mr P. E. Savory
Sir, With reference to your correspondent, Dr J. E. Thomas (March 4) I would like to set the record straight with regard to the reference to Puckchurch branch of the Prison Officers' Association.

1. The member of the Board of Visitors was at no time refused entry to this prison.

2. This branch would never consider taking that kind of action because, as he so rightly says, it is illegal act like that had taken place the full weight of the law would have been brought to bear on us.

Yours faithfully,
PETER SAVORY, Branch Secretary,
Prison Officers' Association,
100 Strand Centre,
Puckchurch,
Avon,
March 5.

From Mr Richard Taylor
Sir, Dr Peter Bird (March 10), if indeed he is an economist, should know that the creation of wealth requires investment and that recruitment is an indispensable form of investment.

He is at fault in having to pay for his own lunch would be more understandable if economics were a more productive discipline. I rather feel that in Dr Bird we may have heard the first cuckoo of spring.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD TAYLOR,
30 Lyneham Gardens,
Pinkneys Green,
Maidenhead,
Berkshire,
March 10.

From Mr Howard W. Sabin
Sir, Almost my last case before giving up practice at the Bar was to prosecute about 27 defendants at Birmingham Assizes for a number of alleged frauds while they were working on a huge building site. There were, I think, five teams of defending counsel, each representing some of the defendants, each led by a QC, and included in the evidence were over 1,000 documents.

As they were perfectly entitled to do, the defence counsel

Misgivings on aspects of Budget strategy

From Mr Douglas Jellis-Ballock

Sir, While the Chancellor is to be congratulated on the overall strategy of his Budget, I fear that he has done nothing to increase the incentive to work among the lower paid.

The Association of Independent Businesses has recently held meetings with members of Parliament from all political parties to discuss this vital topic. We were pleased and encouraged to find a wide measure of agreement on the urgent need for dramatic increases in personal allowances, which would increase the incentive to work of the lower paid and younger worker.

We have, over the last three years, pointed out to the Chancellor the great need for very substantial increases in personal allowances. His moves in his latest Budget were in the right direction, but they are too meagre and have been negated by the increase in employees' contribution to National Insurance.

An analysis of the proposed changes in personal allowances shows that a young office worker earning a gross wage of £50 per week is 60p a week better off with a net wage after reduced tax, but increased National Insurance contributions of £39.00. If he has to pay say £7 per week in fares, an average of £2 per week on suitable clothing, and maybe purchase his own midday meal, he is no better off than his out-of-work companion who has received an increase of £39.00 per week, now enjoys £25 net and can earn up to £4 per week without his benefit being affected.

Without the extra incentive which a sizable increase in personal allowance would have given to the lower-paid worker it is hardly surprising that many of them are reluctant to pursue gainful employment at a rate that employers can afford and that despite the tragic number of unemployed many jobs remain unfilled.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS JELLIS-BALDOCK,
Chairman,
The Taxation Committee,
Association of Independent Businesses,
Trowbar House,
108 Weston Street, SE1,
March 12.

From Mr A. G. G. France
Sir, A phrase used by the Chancellor in his Budget statement on March 9 has created considerable apprehension in the financial community, that the Government is considering renegeing on its promise not to reimpose a "special/windfall profits tax" on the banks. It is important that the managements of the banks can plan ahead in a climate of knowing in advance what the regime they are to be subjected to so that both the banks and industry can have a

reasonable basis on which to anticipate the banks' pricing policies for loans in relation to whatever is the prevailing level of base rates. The current uncertainty is far from helpful, at a time when a recovery of the economy can only be described as fragile.

The phrase causing all the doubts, "...we are still considering how best to ensure a proper contribution to tax revenues by the banking sector", was used in the context of reference to investment incentives and the Green Paper on corporation tax. However it is easy to see that it can be interpreted as conflicting with the statement, on last year's windfall profits tax, made on July 15, 1981, by the then Financial Secretary to the Treasury, that "I gladly repeat the categorical assurance that this is a once-for-all tax. As such, it follows that it will not be repeated, not merely in this form but in some slightly altered form. It is genuinely a once-for-all tax."

Perhaps in the interests of industry and the financial community the Chancellor or his team will speedily alleviate the uncertainty now being felt.

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR G. G. FRANCE,
The Bow Group,
240 High Holborn, WCI,
March 12.

From Mr M. J. Condon
Sir, It always seemed to me that the description "wets" was a misnomer. They have proved me wrong. To lie on their backs like a spaniel after a Budget which can only deserve admiration as a feat of political and financial legerdemain, and which ignores the main issues facing the social and economic structure of this country, is "wet" indeed.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. CONDON,
Hunt International Petroleum Corporation,
192 Sloane Street, SW1,
March 12.

From Miss Eve Northey
Sir, I am often impressed by the aptness of the biblical quotations which head the Personal Columns of your paper. The one for the day following the Budget seemed particularly apposite — Prov. 20:21 (GNB) "...The more easily you get your wealth, the less good it will do you."

Was this a specially selected text or can it be taken as a purely fortuitous comment from on high commiserating with the fluctuations of personal and national finance?

Yours faithfully,
EVE NORTHEY,
Lavender Cottage,
Curry Mallet,
Taunton,
Somerset,
March 11.

his workmates and his country. Terry Duffy, Bill Sims and Clive Jenkins, all of whom participated in the process, can bear witness to the warm memories that Mieczyslaw Gil left behind.

It is hard to think of him now being in prison and unlike those who were interned his release is not to be expected, in theory, before 1986.

Gil is one individual who happens to be known personally to many union leaders in the West. But in discussing what is happening inside Poland we should be careful to remember all those who have been imprisoned since December 13, 1981, as well as those who have been interned. The release of the internees, by itself, will not satisfy trade unionists inside and outside of Poland, while those who have been sentenced for trying to maintain a democratic tradition activity since the Jaruzelski coup remain in jail.

Yours sincerely,
HERMAN REBBAN,
General Secretary,
International Metalworkers' Federation,
Route des Acacias 54 bis,
Case postale 325,
CH-1227 Geneva,
March 9.

obstacle to the greater diffusion of British television outside the UK. For example, in spite of 10 years of political and diplomatic activity in Britain it has been impossible, for legal and not for technical reasons, to enable the cable networks in Belgium to include British programmes in their service which successfully transmits programmes involving several national channels from Belgium, France, Germany and Holland and one from Luxembourg to a wide and appreciative audience.

This same audience fails to understand why Britain cannot appreciate the incalculable national advantages of a cultural, linguistic, touristic, political and commercial nature which accrue from this use of this medium.

Yours faithfully,
DICK H. PANTLIN,
Vice-President,
Council of British Chambers of Commerce in Europe,
11 Avenue de Mercure,
Brussels 1180,
Belgium.

From Mr Dick H. Pantlin
Sir, Lord Aylestone, in his letter on February 24, refers to the fact that decisions shortly to be taken will affect the shape of broadcasting in Britain. In the meantime, the chairman of the BBC, two days later, mentions "the exciting opportunities presented by new and rapidly changing developments". Since then the Government has made known its position. Your Political Editor, Julian Haviland, also wrote on this subject and made a reference to "early legislation" and also to "a pan-European programme service". On March 1 your *BBC* Johnstone stated that "the laws and rules which have governed communications in Britain for the past 30 years are now under question".

However, one looks in vain for some reference to the acute problem of performing rights and royalties. In recent years it is this difficulty which has been a major

challenged any juror who looked at though he might possibly be intelligent, either from his appearance or from his occupation. An accountant, a schoolmaster, a clerk and several reasonably well dressed people all went; and eventually a West Indian came to be sworn, and he was unable to read the oath. The Crown does not usually challenge, except for cause, but this was too much for my learned leader, who is now a distinguished High Court judge.

To the chagrin of the defending counsel, he pointed to the huge pile of documents on his

desk and said: "I see this gentleman has difficulty in reading, and I think the fairest thing I can do is to ask him to stand by for the Crown." The judge nodded his emphatic agreement.

Over 20 years' experience at the Bar, including sitting for five years as Deputy Chairman of Quarter Sessions, left me in no doubt at all that there should be no right to challenge jurors except for cause shown.

Yours faithfully,
HOWARD W. SABIN,
40 Wymsey Gardens,
Allen Street, W8.

From Professor Maurice Bruce
Sir, Mr George Stern, in commenting on Mr Pat Wall's advocacy of removing heads all round (March 10), would seem to have forgotten that the English pioneered the procedure in the seventeenth century.

Yours faithfully,
MAURICE BRUCE,
22 Chorley Drive,
Sheffield,
March 10.

From Mr J. S. F. Parker
Sir, His belief that many European countries have disdained "the Queen, House of Lords, senior officials and judges" several times over might have suggested to Mr George Stern (March 10) how futile and socially divisive such proceedings tend to be. He would also do well to reflect that just the same countries have periodically adopted very brisk techniques for dealing with would-be revolutionaries, in their views, whether genuinely subversive or just childishly silly.

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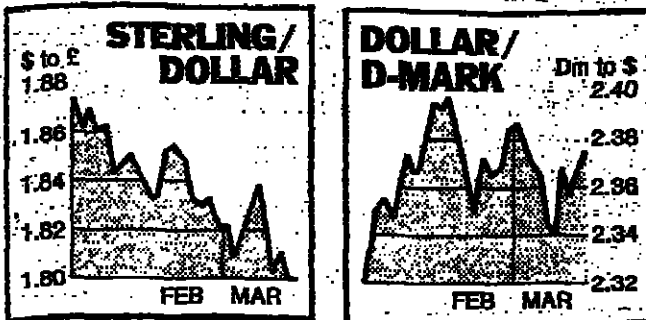
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BUSINESS NEWS

Fears over the pound



Sterling dipped below \$1.80 at the end of last week, with foreign exchange markets worrying that lower interest rates as a result of the Budget might weaken the pound. Sterling also suffered from the strength of the United States dollar, which went up on fears that bad money supply figures in the United States would drive up interest rates on Wall Street. The dollar strengthened against the mark last week on similar fears of high United States interest rates.

Memory chips for Plessey

Plessey Semiconductors is to enter the highly competitive market for large-scale memory chips. Its first product is a 16K CMOS static RAM—chip that can store 16,000 bits of information and give access to any of them within a quarter-millionth of a second. Plessey's chip is at the premium end of the memory market—selling at least at £5 each—and it will not compete directly with the chips mass-marketed by the United States semiconductor giants such as Intel.

Guinness Peat sales key

Guinness Peat shares have dropped by a third to 63p since the end of its boardroom row and the adjustments to the dismal outlook for profits. Tomorrow, the commodity and banking group announces its first-half figures. After the chairman's remarks at the annual meeting that the Chicago losses had continued, no-one is expecting last year's second-half losses to have turned around. The key will be the board's confidence about the second half and the effect of sales of loss-making activities.

Saudi Arabia oil price cut 'myth'

Saudi Arabia wants to defend Opec's \$34 a barrel benchmark price against a world oil glut, but threatened tariff cuts by Nigeria could lead to hopes, the Middle East Economic Survey says.

United States proposals for a sea law treaty met scepticism from Third World delegates to the United Nations Assembly in New York.

Japan to call for trade talks

Japan under pressure from the United States and Western Europe over its huge trade surplus, is to propose, in Washington this week, a new round of international trade talks, Foreign Minister Yoshio Sakurazaki said yesterday. The proposed talks, he said, would be similar to the "Tokyo round" of negotiations in 1979-79.

THE WEEK AHEAD

£1,100m BP target

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 566.9 down 1.0
FT Gtts 68.30 down 0.41
FT All Shares 323.35 down 0.75
Bargains 25,705
(Friday's close)

Hard on the heels of last week's better than expected results from Royal Dutch/Shell, BP Britain's first quarter, but produced a satisfactory final results report with analysts looking for around £1,100m with a net dividend of 14p bringing total distributions for the year to 20.25p.

In the first three quarters of 1981 earnings totalled £739m, an exceptionally poor second quarter followed by an improvement in the third where the weighted average of the contribution from its United States activities.

Economies and rationalization have led to lower stocks being held, and European refineries are expected to bring throughput more into line with capacity. Sales are down 11 per cent on 1980, but the worst could be over, and the current year could see a modest return to profits.

The group's competitive position has benefited from a more unified price structure, while the chemicals business saw some improvement in Europe during the quarter, but remained depressed with substantial rationalization charges.

Oil shares have reflected the world glut and the cut in the price of crude oil by shipping back to the levels they last traded at in 1976, while analysts remain bearish of the sector, if Saudi Arabia was to cut its crude price to \$28 BP would benefit through having the flexibility to buy the cheapest crude.

ECONOMIC VIEW

A heavy week of economic statistics starts today with the first estimates for January industrial production. The Government hopes that they will not show a continuation of November and December's downturn, but the bad weather could distort them. Also today there are provisional figures for February retail sales, which follow on very good January figures. In Brussels, EEC Finance Ministers will be discussing the European Monetary System and relations with Japan.

New figures for average earnings in January and basic pay rates in February are due on Wednesday. Pay settlements seem to have been stable in recent months and little change is expected.

DIARY

Today: Railway Staff National Tribunal on flexible rostering. London: British Caledonian Airways annual report. Energy Select Committee discuss combined heating and power, taking evidence from British Gas Corporation.

Tomorrow: Lord Carrington speaking at American Chamber of Commerce lunch, London.

Wednesday: CBI monthly council meeting. Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee discuss 1982 Budget and the Government's expenditure plans. The Industry and Trade Select Committee takes evidence on the Post Office.

Thursday: TUC's Women's Conference, Bournemouth. National Farmers' Union council meeting. London: Waterways Authority of Great Britain annual report.

Friday: BL 1981 preliminary results.

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY — Interim: Chambers and Fagun, J. Jarvis and Sons, Link House Publications, Peel Holdings, Princes Metals Trust, Victor Products (Walsend) and Yarrow. Final: Barratt Developments, British Petroleum, W. Canning, Carlton Industries, Cement Roadstone, L.M. Ericsson, D.M. Lancaster, Meme Metals, Transport Development, V.W. and Waverley Cameron.

TOMORROW — Interim: Bankers' Investment Trust, Brodie's Bond, Liebig, Compco Holding, Ductile Steels, Guinness Peat, Wolsley Hughes, and Zambia Copper Investment. Final: J. Bibby, Boddingtons, Breweries, Bronx Engineering, Charterhouse Petroleum, Exco International, Great Northern Telegraph, I.M. George, Ingham, Johnstone's, Palms, Edward Jones, and Trade Indemnity.

WEDNESDAY — Interim: Wm. Boulton, Lawtex, Final: Britannia Arrow, Britannic Assurance, Wm. Collins and Sons, Corah, J. Hewitt and Sons (Fenton), John I. Jacobs, Johnson, Group Cleaners, Lex Service Group, Hugh Mackay, L. Ryan, T. Tilling, Turner and Newall, and United States Debenture.

THURSDAY — Interim: Bejam, A. and J. Mucklow, Finesse Holdings, Final: James Fisher and Sons, Guest Keen and Nettlefolds, Hall Engineering, House of Fraser, KCA Drilling, Liverpool Daily Post and Echo, Sale Tilney, Sedgewick Group, Sharpe and Fisher, Steadley, and Supra Group.

FRIDAY — Interim: Gartons, Waring and Gillow, Final: BL Edinburgh Investment Trust, Midland Bank, and Montfort (Knitting Mills).

Fears grow of Berec job rundown

By Ronald Pullen

Berec employees are stepping up their campaign to prevent the run-down of several parts of the Ever Ready battery group's activities.

These moves follow an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of Berec by its parent, Hanson Trust, which won a bitterly contested takeover battle for the group last December.

At most risk is Berec's research and development side where employees have

described the rationalization moves as spelling the end of the group's efforts to stay at the frontiers of battery technology.

Berec has spent more than £40m over the last four years to diversify away from the traditional zinc-carbon battery, mainly through the development of lithium cells. Staff is concerned that the Hanson-controlled Berec board is looking closely at its entire overseas operations which could lead to a concentration of manufacturing

activities in this country. The Tottenham home of the group's technical centre is the latest part of Berec to come under the threat of closure.

Last Friday 130 staff employed there marched through North London protesting over the company's proposals to relocate many of the scientists employed at the centre, which provides back-up research for all the group's factories at home and overseas.

The future of the Totten-

ham facilities are the subject of a management consultants investigation which could lead to a loss of about a third of the 200 staff who are mainly engaged in bringing new technology to the production stage.

The threat follows the closure of the advance products group in Abingdon, Oxon with the loss of 81 jobs. This part of the group was involved in long-term research into new energy sources which, Mr. Colin Stapleton the group's chair-

man, said would now take a back seat to more traditional battery technology.

Also thought to be under threat of closure is the group's head office at Whetstone in North London where 450 jobs are at risk.

Union officials fear that almost 1,000 jobs could go as a result of streamlining following the Hanson takeover. This is in addition to the 450 redundancies that have already been announced.

GM wants more cuts from car workers

From Bailey Morris, Washington, March 14

The latest in a series of unprecedented labour negotiations in the motor industry gets under way tomorrow as General Motors Corporation, America's largest car company, attempts once again to convince the United Auto Workers' Union to accept big cuts in wages and benefits.

It is clear that the GM negotiations are more confrontational in tone than the successful talks between the union and the ailing Ford Motor Company which lost more than \$1,000m last year.

GM executives have told the union they will press for even larger wage and benefit concessions than those in the Ford pact.

Union leaders, still smarting from what they regard as GM's head-on tactics last month in announcing several plant closures and lay-offs of 150,000 workers, do not seem disposed towards greater concessions.

Mr. Douglas Fraser, UAW president, said last week he believes it would be unethical to grant profitable GM which earned more than \$33m last year, more concessions than those given to money-losing Ford.

GMs negotiating team, led by Mr. Alfred Warren, vice-president of industrial relations, has painted a grim picture of stagnant car sales over the next four months and more lay-offs unless the union moves quickly to ease the company's cash flow pressures with wage concessions.

The same arguments were made by GM six weeks ago when talks were broken off suddenly after the UAW balked at demands for a reduction in wages, a cutback in paid holidays, and a reduction of work rules governing parts made abroad.

Then, as now, union leaders remain sceptical and unwilling to accept GM's claim that its financial condition is shaky and in need of strong union support to meet the challenge of Japanese competition.

"With Ford and Chrysler, you know there is trouble but with General Motors, you suspect the company is trying to take advantage of the tough economic times to break the union," a Detroit-based union leader who asked to remain anonymous, said.

Further complicating the negotiations was the announcement last week that GM and Toyota are discussing the possibility of a joint production venture for small cars in the United States market.

Even though nothing has been finalized, United States government officials are already raising strong anti-trust concerns over the possibility of a joint venture between two of the world's largest car companies and union officials have also voiced objections.

A UAW spokesman said a joint production venture would avoid GM making a large investment in new plant and production facilities which would create more jobs in an industry which has lost more than 249,000 full-time positions in the past year alone.

It is an issue likely to be raised by the UAW as it probed the underlying financial condition of General Motors during the new contract negotiations which both sides hope to complete in six weeks' time.

On the plus side, he will again refer to the two sides back to the table was the union's overwhelming approval of a similar concessionary contract with Ford and GM's threat of more plant closures and lay-offs in the beleaguered Western industrial belt.

Telecom to seek private investment

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent

British Telecom will be financially reconstructed before the issue of a profit-related "Buzby bond" announced by the Chancellor in his Budget last week. But any move towards privatization of the corporation will be opposed by the Post Office unions.

The Government will investigate a number of options for reconstructing the corporation — all intended to highlight the need for access to private capital for its investment programme without breaching the Treasury limits on the public sector borrowing requirement.

A prospectus is being prepared for the intended sale in the autumn of a performance-related bond, expected to raise £150m for British Telecom. But the decision to launch or to go for another financial option will be taken later.

The decision will depend on the state of the money market and what shares have already been floated on the market through the sale of nationalized oil and gas reserves. The government has long nurtured the idea of selling part of British Telecom, which has assets of about £16,000m. The complexities are enormous and the sale would require legislation and the capitalizing of British Telecom before the sale.

Both the Department of Industry and British Telecom deny reports that "Buzby bond" has already been scrapped and that plans are now being made to sell off the corporation. British Telecom says it is preparing a

prospectus for the sale of the bond in consultation with its advisers, merchant bank, S. G. Warburg.

The Post Office Engineering Union, though opposed to the sale of British Telecom, is keen on any financial reconstruction which would allow the corporation to raise loans with greater freedom.

The bond issue is expected to be in units of £100 and it is thought that the tax on such a bond dividend would be paid by British Telecom.

The Treasury originally objected to the issue of a bond on the grounds that it was too costly in relation to other forms of raising money. However, it now appears to have changed its view.

But the issue of a £150m bond would have little impact on the investment capital required by British Telecom; which this year will spend £2,000m.

The corporation is already being encouraged to diversify its activities by forming subsidiaries with other companies to pursue particular projects. One such subsidiary, Marlesham Electronics, was formed recently with a number of City institutions to exploit the by-products of research from the corporation's laboratory at Marlesham Heath, near Ipswich.

British Telecom is also being encouraged by the Government to expand its manufacturing capability. It is not yet clear whether the corporation would be able to use the profits from these activities to subsidize its other programmes.

Gill continues battle over ACC payoff

By Philip Robinson

Mr. Jack Gill, dismissed managing director of Associated Communications Corporation, returns to the High Court today as part of his defence of a proposed £500,000 record golden handshake against opposition from ACC institutional shareholders led by the Post Office Pension Fund and now supported by TVU Enterprises.

Mr. Gill will apply for a further adjournment to allow a special ACC shareholders meeting to vote on whether he should get the compensation payment and buy a company-owned house at £100,000 below its market value.

While the Post Office Pension Fund action has been running in the High Court, this special meeting, scheduled nearly 10 weeks ago, has been continually adjourned. It is due to be resumed at 2pm on Thursday.

The Post Office Fund will oppose a further adjournment of the case. It has said before that it has no objection to the special shareholders meeting being held, provided that none of its decisions are implemented.

Four ACC directors, including Lord Grade, the former chairman, have promised to cast their 43 per cent vote in favour of Mr. Gill's payment and property deal.

He faces a small meeting of the Takeover Panel today to explain why his TVU group failed to declare ACC share dealings within 24 hours as required by the code. He is also due to instruct that the audited profit forecast for ACC covering the 12 months which end in a fortnight, should be sent to shareholders.

His rival in the battle to control ACC, the Heron Corporation's Mr. Gerald Ronson, met his advisers informally yesterday.



Bert Waterman shows off one of his special bricks

A West End showcase for century-old skill

Brickmaker Bert Waterman, working at Swanage Brick and Tile in Dorset — one of the country's few remaining handmade brickworks — has been busy preparing "specials" which are to be used to build a fire station in London's Shaftesbury Avenue. Bricks have been made on the Swanage site for 100 years and are produced from multi-coloured clays dug from the Wealdon beds on the Isle of Purbeck. The company's 19th century kiln can hold 40,000 bricks which are baked for 70 hours.

Meanwhile on the wider construction front, Savory Mills, in a major survey of contractors, house builders and plant hire companies, published today, say that companies weathering the recession are in a remarkably buoyant fashion.

"The United Kingdom is not alone in experiencing a severe recession in construction output but the fall in the workload in the United States, Continental Europe and elsewhere was much more marked in 1981 than in the previous year."

Bleak conditions were likely to continue throughout 1982 and it was unlikely that any recovery would take place until 1983 in most major construction markets.

"Our leading contractors are now companies of great strength and diversity, while a number of medium-sized contractors and house builders have also transformed themselves into much stronger vehicles than was the case as little as five years ago."

"We believe these companies will stand comparison with any in the world", the study concluded.

Edwardes to reveal £500m loss

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Sir Michael Edwardes, chairman of BL, will this week paint a new and brighter picture for the state-controlled motor group, despite reporting losses for last year of about £500m.

Disclosing the company's 1981 financial results on Friday, Sir Michael is expected to reaffirm his belief that BL will be trading profitably next year and will no longer need taxpayers' support.

The most significant improvement has been in the cars division, so much troubled in the past by labour relations problems, where losses of £266m have been cut by £100m and pro-

ductivity improved to its best level in BL's history.

A large proportion of the gains, however, have been offset by the unexpected slump last year in the commercial vehicle market, both at home and abroad, which has forced directors of Leyland Vehicles to conduct a major reappraisal of the trucks business and which, in turn, led to the recent strike over planned redundancies.

The truck and bus side of BL probably will show a loss of £80m for 1981.

Sir Michael has already told MPs that the net result will be a 1981 loss only slightly better than 1980's, £535m, which included £139m

for plant closures and redundancies.

Sir Michael leaves what most observers have regarded as the most difficult job in the motor industry in the autumn and will probably take the opportunity on Friday to spell out the success of the cars division and the further challenges that will face his successor.

On the plus side, he will again refer to the large share of the home market captured by the Metro and the Triumph Acclaim and is expected to stress the importance of collaboration deals with other manufacturers, particularly the Japanese.

Dearth of apprentices in transport industry

Worry over skill shortage

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Fears are growing in the road transport industry of a chronic shortage of skilled craftsmen by the mid 1980s.

The number of first-year apprentices in such trades as mechanic, body builder and vehicle electrician has fallen by 70 per cent in three years from 13,000 to an estimated 3,500 in 1981-82 and there are no signs that companies are planning for higher recruitment in the present training year.

The problem has been worsened by a disturbing increase in the proportion of apprentice drop-outs from a national 10 per cent of the total to 14.5 per cent.

Rapidly rising wastage is giving cause for considerable alarm, according to the Road Transport Industry Training Board. In 1980 it predicted that the industry would need to recruit about 25,000 apprentices by 1982 but by the end of 1981 the two-year total had not reached 10,000, "which means that the industry is already some 15,000 apprentices short of anticipated needs."

standards, reducing levels of expenditure and rising unemployment.

In the heavy haulage industry a rise of 7p a gallon on the price of diesel and a 25 per cent excise duty increase — both announced in the Budget — will intensify the need for savings and apprentice intake could suffer further.

The board has now published a special issue of its newspaper, *Transport Training*, to highlight the craft recruitment problems.

The board stresses that manpower cuts have also affected clerical workers, supervisors and managers, many of whom are well qualified, and says that they could be lost to the industry permanently.

"Past experiences show, however, that when economic recovery does eventually occur its effect will be more rapid and have greater implications for manpower and training needs in the road transport industry than in other sectors of the economy."

According to RTITB statistics, there were almost 34,000 apprentices in the industry during 1980-81.

A motor mechanic at work — one of a declining breed.

Recessionary conditions have forced many transport companies to cut training budgets savagely. In common with other service industries, says the board, transport has been particularly badly hit by a decline in badly living

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the Holders of

W. R. Grace Overseas Development Corporation

5% Guaranteed Sinking Fund Debentures Due 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of April 1, 1966 providing for the above Debentures, said Debentures aggregating \$750,000 principal amount have been selected for redemption on April 1, 1982 through operation of the Sinking Fund at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to said date, as follows:

Outstanding Debentures of \$1,000 each of prefix "M" bearing the distinctive numbers ending in any of the following two digits:

02 11 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95

Also Debentures of \$1,000 each of prefix "M" bearing the following serial numbers:

2	1181	2121	3181	4281	5281	6281	7881	8881	9881	10281	11281	12281	13281	14591
81	1481	2581	3681	4781	5881	6881	7981	8981	9981	10981	11981	12981	13981	14591
81	1481	2581	3681	4781	5881	6881	7981	8981	9981	10981	11981	12981	13981	14591
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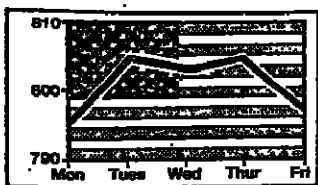
Payment will be made upon presentation and surrender of the above Debentures with coupons due October 1, 1982 and subsequent coupons attached at the main offices of any of the following: Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 30 West Broadway, New York, New York 10015; Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Brussels, Frankfurt am Main, London and Paris; Algemeen Bank, Nederland N.V. in Amsterdam; Credito Italiano in Milan; and Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A. in Luxembourg. Coupons due April 1, 1982 should be detached and collected in the usual manner.

On and after April 1, 1982 interest shall cease to accrue on the Debentures selected for redemption. The current conversion price of the Debentures is \$57.32 per share of Common Stock of W. R. Grace & Co.

W. R. GRACE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Dated: March 1, 1982

Dow Jones slide should continue



The Dow Jones industrial average dropped below the 800 mark for the first time in almost two years last week and is expected to continue its downward movement today.

Fears that the Federal Reserve would announce a large increase in the nation's money supply pushed the Dow down 8.19 points on Friday to 797.37, a fall of 9.93 points for the week.

That concern proved to be well founded when the Federal Reserve said the supply had risen \$3,400m (£1,859m) in the latest reporting week, and gloom over that figure could send the Dow plunging for the 12th Monday in a row.

The market followed what is becoming a familiar pattern last week. It plunged 11.89 points on Monday to 795.47, rallied to above the 800 mark in the middle of the week, and then fell again by Friday. Technology stocks suffered the largest losses, and volume was the third largest in history with 305.39 million shares changing hands.

ZURICH

Gloom remains

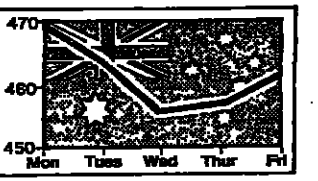
With full employment, a healthy balance of payments and a recent decline in inflationary pressures, Switzerland has little to complain of. But its bourses have registered a lamentable performance since the beginning of this year and on the basis of last week's movement show little sign of moving upwards in the near future.

The gloom affected share prices with Oerlikon Bearer and BBC falling to seven-year lows and Alusuisse falling below its Fr500 (£149) nominal value to hit its lowest price ever. In banks Credit Suisse was weak, dropping below Fr1,800.

The stampede out of shares was blamed in part on large institutional investors in the United States, Britain and Switzerland, who appear to have discovered a predilection for bonds instead of equities. Bonds, it is argued, should profit from falling interest rates while companies are likely to suffer from the recession in Switzerland's major trading partners and the strength of the Swiss franc.

MELBOURNE

Modest rally



The Melbourne Stock Exchange staged a modest rally yesterday and finished the week at roughly the same as the previous Friday's close. But no-one was prepared to say a prolonged recovery had started.

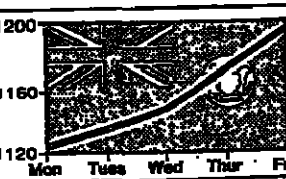
The Australian Prime Minister's speech on Tuesday did nothing to improve confidence.

Most discussion on the U.S. economy centred on whether the recession would turn into — or was already — a depression, rather than when the situation would improve. Most brokers say a recovery in the U.S. economy, or the expectation of one, is necessary before share prices in Australia begin a sustained improvement.

Of the five main indices two, the metals and minerals and the all resources, had small gains. The metals and minerals put on 4.6 points to 330.8 and the all resources 2.3 points to 339.8.

HONGKONG

Technical rally



Helped by good results from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, the market staged a technical rally, with the Hang Seng index closing at 1,197, up 38 points on the week. Average daily turnover was up at HK \$203m (£19.06m).

The week's key moment came on Tuesday when after sharp falls the market tested 1,100, finding some support, including some institutional buying. The Hongkong Bank's results, showing net profits of more than Hongkong \$2,000m, helped bolster confidence.

One strong rumour has been that property tycoon Li Ka-Shing has been buying in. His quoted vehicle, Cheung Kong, was one of the strongest performers, finishing the week at 15.80 from a low of 13.90.

But another of last year's actively traded stocks, Carpan, maintained its recent downturn, closing at 3.65, down 15 cents.

SINGAPORE

Sentiment low

The skid on the Singapore market which began on February 26 has yet to finish its course. Meanwhile bargain hunters are picking up large blocks of quality stocks dumped by overseas institutions.

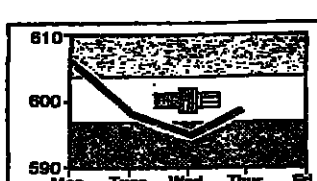
Last week's trading scraped the support level of 680 with a low of 687.49, followed by a short technical rebound which played itself out by the weekend. Sentiment remained depressed despite good results from three out of the big bank's leading analysts to recommend investment in banks as well as marine industry and hotel stocks.

For 1982 group after-tax profits, United Overseas Bank reported a 44.5 per cent

growth to 133.4 million Singapore dollars (\$34.7m) while earlier the Development Bank of Singapore had shown an increase of 62 per cent to S\$112.7m, and Overseas Union Bank reported 44.8 per cent growth to S\$47.1m. Overseas-Chinese Banking Corporation is expected to disclose equally commendable results soon.

JOHANNESBURG

Battle for stores



Takeover battles are what Johannesburg lives and breathes on and the struggle for London-quoted Greatmans Stores has been the issue gripping the Stock Exchange.

Mr Natie Kirsch, a highly successful local entrepreneur, bid 25 rand a share for the voting shares of Greatmans. Meanwhile Greatmans published interim figures and an interim dividend.

Mr Kirsch did not believe the figures and, after further inquiry, Greatmans reduced the interim from 35 to 15 cents and also announced that its profit statement was down 51 per cent on revision.

Kirsch is bidding for the non-voting shares to win control but it seems clear that sellers are far more desperate than buyers. These shareholders are not prepared to release their shares until they find out what is involved in the rest of the machinery. If Mr Kirsch wins control of Greatmans, which seems likely, he will control the third biggest industrial group in South Africa after South African Breweries and Barlows and a combined turnover of over R 3,200m.

Medium term financial strategy: the evidence

Has the Government effectively abandoned its Medium Term Financial Strategy, or has it simply refurbished it? Most commentators in the City and the Press seem to think radical changes have been made. The Government denies this. The best way to judge is to look at the words in which the strategy was originally framed in the Financial Statement and Budget Report (FSBR), published in March 1981, and compare them with the words of the latest version of the strategy, published in the FSBR this week. The main

changes are that more than one variable is now being targeted, though the original version warned readers that changes might occur; there is no firm commitment to any figure except for the year ahead; and the target ranges are higher. The Government argues that most of these changes are a response to technical factors.

David Blake

RANGES FOR MONETARY GROWTH

Percentage change during year under	1982/3	1983/4	1984/5
1980 version	5-9	4-8	n.a.
1982 version	8-12	7-11	6-10

In 1980, figures were quoted for EM3. In 1982 they are for a range of variables.

Money supply and inflation

1980

"Control of the money supply will over a period of years reduce the rate of inflation. The speed with which inflation falls will depend crucially on expectations both within the United Kingdom and overseas. It is to provide a firm basis for those expectations that the Government has announced its firm commitment to a progressive reduction in money supply growth."

1982

"The Government's policy is to bring about a further reduction in inflation. Over a period of years there has been a reasonably stable relationship between the monetary aggregates and money GDP and prices. In the short run, however, the relationship between any one measure of money and money incomes may be influenced by a range of factors including the exchange rate, the level and structure of interest rates, changes in savings behaviour and the balance between interest rates and fiscal policy, as well as institutional changes."

The monetary targets

1980

"To reduce inflation, it (the Government) will progressively reduce the growth of money stock and will pursue the policies necessary to achieve this aim. After 1980-81, for which a target range of 7-11 per cent has been announced for EM3, the Government intend to set a target range consistent with the annual growth of the money supply being reduced to about 6 per cent in 1983-4. The Government intend that there should be a progressive deceleration over the period... though the precise target rate of growth in the intervening years will be decided at the time."

1982

"A rate of growth in the monetary aggregates during the next year (1982-3) in a range of 8-12 per cent will constitute realistic progress towards meeting its medium-term objectives. In judging the rate of monetary growth now appropriate, it has taken account of the sharp deceleration in money GDP that has already occurred and the behaviour of a range of indicators, including the exchange rate... The target for 1982-3 implies a significant reduction in recent rates of growth of the wide aggregates. The ranges for 1983-4 and 1984-5 will be reconsidered nearer the time, and will take account of structural and fiscal institutional changes which may affect the economic significance of the different aggregates."

What if forecasts go wrong?

1980

"The Government would face a number of options for policy changes... including changes in interest rates, taxes and public expenditure. But there would be no question of departing from the money supply policy, which is essential to the success of any anti-inflationary strategy."

1982

"The intention would be to hold firmly to the central purpose of the strategy by strategy by steady, but not excessive, downward pressure on monetary variables."

CAPITAL MARKETS

Mark may be right for revival

Bond dealers and analysts have watched a flood of dollar issues on the Euro-market this year. But there are the first faint signs that in the coming months fund managers and investors will look more kindly on the Deutschmark than they have for a while.

The evidence falls into two categories: the long-term and cyclical considerations, and the rather short-term changes occurring to interest rates and currencies. By the middle of the year these could combine to create a favourable climate for the Deutschmark.

The share of dollar bonds in total new issues has been declining on a secular trend. In 1971 the dollar accounted for 5 per cent of new issues when they were worth \$7,700m. But by 1980 the percentage had fallen to 42 per cent from a market swollen to \$38,000m.

Over the same period the share taken by European currencies grew from 36 per cent to 51 per cent. The Deutsche mark raised its stake from 16 per cent to 22 per cent, while the Swiss franc followed from 11 per cent to 20 per cent. All other currencies were a long way behind.

This trend was not even, however. Expectations that the Deutsche mark would be revalued prompted a rapid upswing in Deutsche mark investments from the equivalent of \$2,821m to \$6,513m in three years of the seventies. Conversely, the inflow reflected the dollar's weakness, tempting some analysts to talk of a dollar-Deutsche mark cycle.

The idea has been revived again. Looking several months ahead one can argue that short-term factors will

favour the German against the American currency. Lower oil prices will help the German balance of payments more than the American; and American interest rates, which have dominated the bond market by translation

into record yields, could slip. Some borrowers have probably anticipated this development, delaying their entry into the market until lower interest rates make Deutsche mark and Swiss franc offerings more attractive.

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

STRAIGHT DEBT	Price	Yield	CONVERTIBLE BONDS	Price	Yield
100% 1983	100.00	14.74	100% 1983	95.00	4.22
100% 1984	100.00	15.81	100% 1984	95.00	13.46
100% 1985	100.00	16.86	100% 1985	95.00	13.46
100% 1986	100.00	17.91	100% 1986	95.00	13.46
100% 1987	100.00	18.96	100% 1987	95.00	13.46
100% 1988	100.00	19.96	100% 1988	95.00	13.46
100% 1989	100.00	20.96	100% 1989	95.00	13.46
100% 1990	100.00	21.96	100% 1990	95.00	13.46
100% 1991	100.00	22.96	100% 1991	95.00	13.46
100% 1992	100.00	23.96	100% 1992	95.00	13.46
100% 1993	100.00	24.96	100% 1993	95.00	13.46
100% 1994	100.00	25.96	100% 1994	95.00	13.46
100% 1995	100.00	26.96	100% 1995	95.00	13.46
100% 1996	100.00	27.96	100% 1996	95.00	13.46
100% 1997	100.00	28.96	100% 1997	95.00	13.46
100% 1998	100.00	29.96	100% 1998	95.00	13.46
100% 1999	100.00	30.96	100% 1999	95.00	13.46
100% 2000	100.00	31.96	100% 2000	95.00	13.46

WEEKLY LIST OF FIXED-INTEREST STOCKS

Latest price	Prev. price	Latest price	Prev. price
100% 1983	100.00	100% 1983	95.00
100% 1984	100.00	100% 1984	95.00
100% 1985	100.00	100% 1985	95.00
100% 1986	100.00	100% 1986	95.00
100% 1987	100.00	100% 1987	95.00
100% 1988	100.00	100% 1988	95.00
100% 1989	100.00	100% 1989	95.00
100% 1990	100.00	100% 1990	95.00
100% 1991	100.00	100% 1991	95.00
100% 1992	100.00	100% 1992	95.00
100% 1993	100.00	100% 1993	95.00
100% 1994	100.00	100% 1994	95.00
100% 1995	100.00	100% 1995	95.00
100% 1996	100.00	100% 1996	95.00
100% 1997	100.00	100% 1997	95.00
100% 1998	100.00	100% 1998	95.00
100% 1999	100.00	100% 1999	95.00
100% 2000	100.00	100% 2000	95.00

Alarm over the battle to fix world oil prices

The oil market looks an alarming situation, according to James Capel, brokers. While the official price structure of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries should be maintained in the short term, the outlook for 1983 looks more doubtful.

One of the driving forces behind price erosion could be the financial objectives of individual producing countries with some trying to increase market share, Capel says. Downstream profits in Europe will be helped by refinery closures, but underlying competitive forces will tend to dampen margins.

Australia's Cooper Basin is still virtually unexplored by world standards, yet the success ratio of around 40 per cent is very high for such a sparsely drilled region. With excellent prospects for further oil and gas discoveries, plus rising real prices for gas, this is considered one of the best areas for oil and gas investment in Australia, Capel says. It features Australian Gas Light and CSR as good value.

Dowry look cheap, according to Henderson. Growth in the share price has fallen far enough, and Dowry should start to regain relative strength. The export market for mining equipment is improving, and looking as much as a year to 15 months ahead, it sees good prospects for the aerospace side. It suggests a repeat of 1980-81 profits in 1981-82, at £36m.

BTR is a buy because of the relative rapid earnings growth beyond 1983, according to de Zoete & Bevan. From 1981's £90.1m pretax level, it sees a progression in the following two years to £110m and £130.9m.

Looking at the financial sector, Greenwell assesses Guinness Peat as a sell, Charterhouse and Schroders both buys, and Britannia Arrow a buy on weakness. Among the insurance groups,

Britannia Assurance is a buy, as is Refuge Assurance. Rowe & Pitman expects an increase in pretax profits from Unilever to £775m from £708.5m, and rates the shares merely a hold. Phillips & Drew are forecasting £785m for next year, and £885m the following year, and also rates the shares a hold.

Sally White

Michael Prest

Hill Samuel Base Rate

With effect from the close of business on March 15th, 1982, Hill Samuel's Base Rate for lending will be reduced from 13% per cent to 13 per cent per annum.

Interest payable on the Bank's Demand Deposit Accounts will be at the rate of 10% per cent per annum.

Hill Samuel & Co. Limited
100 Wood Street, London EC2P 2AJ
Telephone: 01-628 8011

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

Capitalisation	Company	Change last week	Gross Div	Yld	P/E	Fully Paid
1,253	Ass Brit Ind Cals	126 +1	10.0	7.9	—	—
1,125	Airprogs Group	73 +1	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0
1,125	Armstrong & Rhodes	71 +1	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5
1,125	Bardon Hill	199 +1	9.7	4.9	9.7	11.8
1,338	CCC 11% Conv Pref	107 +2	15.7	14.7	—	—
5,038	Deborah Services	65 -1	6.0	9.2	3.2	6.1
4,078	Frank Russell	128 -2	6.4	5.0	11.5	23.7
11,557	Frederick Parke	80 -1	6.4	8.0	4.1	7.8
960	George Blair	52 -	—	—	—	—
2,581	Ind Prec Castings	94 -1	7.3	7.8	6.8	10.7
3,881	Jordan & Carlisle	109 +3	15.7	14.4	—	—
15,596	James Burroughs	113 +1	8.7	7.7	8.2	10.4
2,581	Robert Jenkins	253 +3	31.3	12.4	3.5	8.9
5,180	Scruttons "A"	63 +2	5.3	8.5	9.5	8.9
3,881	Torday & Carlisle	159 -	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5
2,885	Twinkl Ord	130 -	—	—	—	—
2,157	Twinkl 15% ULs	79 +1	15.0	19.0	—	—
2,615	Unilock Holdings	25 -	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6
5,760	Walker Alexander	77 -	6.4	8.3	5.1	9.0
5,274	W. S. Yeates	226 +1	13.1	5.8	4.3	8.7

Prices now available on Prestel, page 48146

Grindlays Bank p.l.c. Interest Rates

Grindlays Bank p.l.c. announces that its base rate for lending will change from 13½% to 13% with effect from 12th March 1982

The interest rates paid on call deposits will be: call deposits of £1,000 and over 10% (call deposits of £300 - £999 9%)

Rates of interest on fixed deposits of over £5,000 will be quoted on request. Enquiries: Please telephone 01-930 4611



The base rate announcement for Grindlays Bank was erroneously printed by the Times on 12th March. The corrected notice appears above.

The Carnegie United Kingdom Trust Abstract of Audited Accounts For the Year Ended 31 December 1981

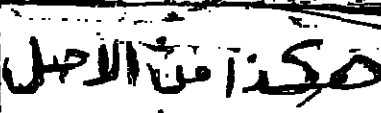
Funds and Provisions	(£)
Endowment Fund	4,412,581
Reserve Fund	282,744
Provision for grants authorised	814,045
	5,509,370
Reserve Fund	
As at 31 December 1980	363,927
Income from investments etc	595,890
Less	
Non-grant expenditure	140,800
Grants authorised (net)	536,273
	677,073
As at 31 December 1981	282,744

GEOFFREY LORD, Secretary and Treasurer
Carnegie Park House, Dunfermline, Fife, KY12 7EJ
18 March 1982

NatWest Mortgage Rate

With effect from 16th March, 1982 the NatWest Mortgage Rate payable under current Mortgage Deeds and Conditions of Offer will be decreased by 1% to 13½% p.a.

National Westminster Home Loans Limited
41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP



Miss Cottrill and Miss Wood face a long slog

From John Hennessy, Copenhagen, March 14

After the euphoria of Friday, the despair of Saturday. That was the agony suffered by British camp followers at the world championships here. Wherever Jane Torvill and Christopher Dean rose majestically to the challenge of retaining their ice dance title, the British women's solo competitors fell sadly from grace.

Deborah Cottrill, fourth last year and holding fourth place after the short programme, plummeted to tenth; Karen Wood, fifteenth last year, dropped two rungs on the ladder; and Diana Rankin at her first attempt, was twenty-third. There need be no regrets so far as Miss Rankin is concerned. This was always to be nothing more than a voyage of discovery and she discovered how tough life is at the top, the experience, her first in any form of international competition, was an essential preliminary stepping stone.

There must, however, be some heart searching on the part of the other two. Can the one, Miss Cottrill, build on her excellent compulsory figures with a stronger free skating performance, overcoming a personal timidity of character? Can the other, Miss Wood, apply herself to the command of school figures and thus provide a reasonable launching pad for her free skating potential?

These are the agonizing thoughts that must go through

their minds, and those of their supportive parents, in the weeks ahead. For both there is the spectre of an Olympic blazer in 1994 but two more years is a long slog for that limited accolade for a British champion, as Miss Wood was, and Miss Cottrill both is and was.

Miss Cottrill was so out of sorts that she landed not a single triple jump. She took the gamble of the difficult triple flip (the salchow) at the start of her programme and its failure followed. Safely landed, it would have put her on a high that would have lifted her over the full four minutes. Here she stumbled badly and so lost her confidence as to use both feet for all succeeding triple jumps.

Miss Wood got away to her usual spectacular start of triple loop, double toe loop and double flip in continuation but she fell on both the triple loop and the triple flip. Miss Rankin, a beginner at this level, must be spared critical analysis, but the basis of an elegant presence is clear and there is no need for her to feel discouraged or for the National Skating Association to regret their decision, at the third attempt to send her here.

The winner was Elaine Zayak, until now living through a series of disasters this year including third place in the American championship. Last year she seemed little more than a cute

jumping machine. Now the artistry is emerging and at 16 she has time to develop into a great champion. She rose from seventh place after the short programme, a tribute to the new scoring system that makes all things possible on the final night.

On the night Katarina Witt, the East German, she proved unequal to the task. The title was hers for the taking but, having failed with the triple flip after a dazzling opening combination of double loop to triple toe loop she fell away badly. One still suspects that she has even greater potential than Miss Zayak, her senior by eight months, but the question remains whether she has the character. Both have to beware another rapidly rising 16-year-old, Claudia Leistner.

Today was given over to the exhibitions, with Miss Torvill and Dean having the honour of closing the show. They created yet another fairy tale on ice, so appropriate to this city of Hans Christian Andersen.

WOMEN'S FINAL POSITIONS: 1. E. Zayak (USA) 4 places; 2. K. Witt (GER) 7.8; 3. C. Leistner (GER) 12.0; 4. A. Buhner (USA) 12.2; 5. R. Zayak (USA) 12.2; 6. D. Rankin (CAN) 23.3; 7. K. Wood (CAN) 23.3; 8. D. Rankin (CAN) 23.3; 9. D. Rankin (CAN) 23.3; 10. D. Rankin (CAN) 23.3.

FINAL RESULTS: 1. J. Torvill and C. Dean (GBR) 2.0 places; 2. W. Biedermann and A. Buhner (USSR) 4.0; 3. J. Torvill and C. Dean (GBR) 7.0; 4. J. Torvill and C. Dean (GBR) 7.0; 5. C. For and R. Daley (USA) 10.0; 6. O. Chiriac (USA) 10.0; 7. O. Chiriac (USA) 10.0; 8. O. Chiriac (USA) 10.0; 9. O. Chiriac (USA) 10.0; 10. O. Chiriac (USA) 10.0.



Torvill and Dean acknowledge an adoring crowd

SQUASH RACKETS

Hunt's future progress in doubt

By Rex Bellamy

The top four seeds qualified for the semi-finals of the McEwan's Lager Tournament at Stockton, where a field of 32 assembled last Wednesday in pursuit of £12,285, or as large a slice as they could carve from the total prize fund of £12,705. While 28 men considered the prospect of defeat as a necessary evil, there must be some doubt whether he will even reach the final of the British championship at Chichester.

The quarter-final round confirmed that Hunt has lost the edge of work to do if he is to stand any chance of retaining the British championship, which he won last year for the eighth time, a record.

Hunt's only previous tournament on this tour was at Sheffield, where he was beaten

by Lars Kavant. He may have left his preparation too late. Even if Hunt's form was the maximum that might reasonably be expected from a man of 35, he would start second favourite at Bromley. But he is currently so vulnerably inconsistent and sluggish that, unless he improves rapidly, there must be some doubt whether he will even reach the final of the British championship.

Hunt might have lost in the quarter-final round at Stockton but for the fact that Steven Bowditch, who can be a superb shot unless he is in a bad mood, could hardly believe in his chance of beating a player with Hunt's reputation. Nor is Bowditch in his best form at present. His trouble has interrupted and inhibited his usual programme of training, practice and match-play. This contest was not so much a reminder of

Hunt's great achievements as a reminder that he made his first trip to Britain at the age of 16 and has since then won 16 titles.

The springy Gamal Awad presented Jahangir with a lively, and briefly, close challenge. A predictable outcome was a willingness to make a headline diving across the court. At the age of 15 he was probably the best goalkeeper of his age in Egypt, but he had to hope that his soccer career because he stopped growing.

The interesting thing about Jahangir and his opponent was that both looked enviously fit and sharp, and therefore capable of taking advantage of any weakness in the other's game.

Quarter-final round, Jahangir Khan (Pakistan) beat Gamal Awad (Egypt) 9-4, 10-4. Quarter-final round, Steven Bowditch (England) beat Jahangir Khan (Pakistan) 9-4, 10-4. Quarter-final round, Steven Bowditch (England) beat Jahangir Khan (Pakistan) 9-4, 10-4.

Mrs Robinson's arrival decides Scotland's fate

By Joyce Whitehead

England 3

Scotland 0

England were in convincing form at Stoke-on-Trent on Saturday and they could have scored at least six or seven goals.

Fileen Bray, playing in her third international match and the only scorer against Wales the previous week, gave England the lead after 25 minutes. Jane Swinerton made it two in the second half, following a volley of shots after one of England's seven penalty corners. And then came the last exciting 10 minutes.

Valery Robinson was brought on in place of Katie Dodd. This change, by the very nature of the players - Mrs Robinson is a forward and Miss Dodd a defender - altered the whole outlook. With some fine passes

from Mrs Robinson, England's four other forwards improved and looked increasingly dangerous.

On one attacking run, Mrs Robinson was tripped by a Scottish defender and the resulting penalty corner gave England a 2-0 lead. Mrs Robinson, who had already shown herself to be a steady defender, collected the ball and gave a good pass for Miss Swinerton to sweep in. It was a well-timed shot and well-executed team work.

But then Miss Dodd failed in any respect. Her long reach stood England in good stead in the first quarter of an hour when Scotland had their corner record broken by set by Mark Holton in the invitation 60 metres hurdles, and Ian Stewart's 3,000 metres victory. Stewart, from Luton, was one of several

King gains respect and a UK record

By Norman Fox, Athletics Correspondent

To put British sprinters in perspective, last year Allan Wells was the only one to appear in the world's top 100 or 200 metres. But in the coming season Wells could find himself having to share the spotlight with another Briton.

Harry King, an astute 23-year-old from Bracknell, was one of only three English competitors to beat the Americans at Coxford on Saturday and through his metres victory came in an invitation event, he broke Wells' United Kingdom and all-comers record by 1/100th of a second, 6.65 secs. What is more, he beat Mel Lattany, one of those robust, piston-legged Americans who felt at home in the Olympic gold while they were kept at home.

Lattany would refresh a few memories Wells next summer, but it was King he had to respect on Saturday. Lattany won the match race in 6.71 sec, but was impressed by the way King relaxed in the second invitation event and made a superb start.

Lattany, who is the second fastest man in the world out of doors, felt King's improvement could assist his own attack on the world 100m record of 9.59 secs. He returned to spend three months in Europe this summer. With surprising confidence, and an early eye on promotion, he suggested that on July 17 at the Crystal Palace Open meeting, he might be ready for the record. Whether Crystal Palace, with its little winds and crisscross track, will be ready for the attempt is another matter.

King's performance at Coxford was especially creditable as he had been suffering from pain in the sciatic nerve. He had run in Milan last year, but the pain needed treatment. "I'm not running again until I'm real 100 per cent," he said.

With a comparatively moderate team, the Americans won the Philips sponsored match by 78.5 to 49.5, but in the main they disappointed. Frank Assum-son was the only American to run the four-minute mile (3min 55.56sec) seen in Britain because Alan Sater chased him.

Larry Myricks easily improved the long jump all-comers mark to 7.92 metres but several of the day's most impressive performances came in the 100m and 200m. Kathy Smallwood, who heralded her new season with 23.40sec in the 200 metres.

To break the all-comers record without ever having run the indoor bends before was commendable. So, too, was the all-comers record of 1.10sec set by Mark Holton in the invitation 60 metres hurdles, and Ian Stewart's 3,000 metres victory. Stewart, from Luton, was one of several



Wells: our only sprinter in the world top 30

reserves commanded the meeting, which attracted 2,500 people but still prompted doubts on the future of Coxford because of 500 empty seats.

RESULTS: 60 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 6.71 sec; 2. H. King (GBR) 6.74; 3. J. Phillips (USA) 6.76; 4. J. Evans (ENG) 6.83; 50 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 6.78 sec; 2. D. Lattany (USA) 6.77; 3. W. Greaves (GBR) 6.81; 4. M. Lattany (USA) 6.82; 100 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 11.81; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 11.82; 3. J. Evans (ENG) 11.83; 4. J. Phillips (USA) 11.84; 200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 23.40; 2. K. Smallwood (ENG) 23.41; 3. J. Phillips (USA) 23.42; 400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 50.50; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 50.51; 800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 2:00.00; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 2:00.01; 1,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 4:42.22; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 4:42.23; 3,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 9:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 9:59.60; 6,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 19:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 19:59.60; 12,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 39:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 39:59.60; 25,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 79:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 79:59.60; 51,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 159:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 159:59.60; 102,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 319:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 319:59.60; 204,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 639:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 639:59.60; 409,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 1279:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 1279:59.60; 819,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 2559:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 2559:59.60; 1,638,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 5119:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 5119:59.60; 3,276,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 10239:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 10239:59.60; 6,553,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 20479:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 20479:59.60; 13,107,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 40959:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 40959:59.60; 26,214,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 81919:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 81919:59.60; 52,428,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 163839:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 163839:59.60; 104,857,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 327679:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 327679:59.60; 209,715,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 655359:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 655359:59.60; 419,430,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 1310719:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 1310719:59.60; 838,860,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 2621439:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 2621439:59.60; 1,677,721,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 5242879:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 5242879:59.60; 3,355,443,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 10485719:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 10485719:59.60; 6,710,886,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 20971539:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 20971539:59.60; 13,421,772,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 41943079:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 41943079:59.60; 26,843,545,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 83886159:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 83886159:59.60; 53,687,091,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 16777239:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 16777239:59.60; 107,374,182,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 33554479:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 33554479:59.60; 214,748,364,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 67108959:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 67108959:59.60; 429,496,729,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 1342179:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 1342179:59.60; 858,993,459,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 2684359:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 2684359:59.60; 1,717,986,918,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 5368719:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 5368719:59.60; 3,435,973,836,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 10737439:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 10737439:59.60; 6,871,947,673,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 21474879:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 21474879:59.60; 13,743,895,347,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 42949679:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 42949679:59.60; 27,487,790,694,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 85899359:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 85899359:59.60; 54,975,581,388,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 17179879:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 17179879:59.60; 109,951,162,777,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 34359759:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 34359759:59.60; 219,902,325,555,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 6871959:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 6871959:59.60; 439,804,651,110,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 1374389:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 1374389:59.60; 879,609,302,220,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 2748779:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 2748779:59.60; 1,759,218,604,441,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 5497559:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 5497559:59.60; 3,518,437,208,883,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 10995119:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 10995119:59.60; 7,036,874,417,766,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 21990239:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 21990239:59.60; 14,073,748,835,532,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 43980479:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 43980479:59.60; 28,147,497,671,065,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 87960959:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 87960959:59.60; 56,294,995,342,131,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 1759219:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 1759219:59.60; 112,589,990,684,262,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 3518439:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 3518439:59.60; 225,179,981,368,524,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 7036879:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 7036879:59.60; 450,359,962,737,049,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 14073749:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 14073749:59.60; 900,719,925,474,099,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 2814749:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 2814749:59.60; 1,801,439,850,948,198,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 5629499:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 5629499:59.60; 3,602,879,701,896,396,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 1125899:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 1125899:59.60; 7,205,759,403,792,793,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 2251799:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 2251799:59.60; 14,411,518,807,585,587,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 4503599:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 4503599:59.60; 28,823,037,615,171,174,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 9007199:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 9007199:59.60; 57,646,075,230,342,348,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 18014399:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 18014399:59.60; 115,292,150,460,684,697,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 36028799:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 36028799:59.60; 230,584,300,921,369,395,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 72057599:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 72057599:59.60; 461,168,601,842,738,790,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 14411599:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 14411599:59.60; 922,337,203,685,477,580,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 28823099:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 28823099:59.60; 1,844,674,407,370,955,161,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 57646099:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 57646099:59.60; 3,689,348,814,741,910,323,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 115292399:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 115292399:59.60; 7,378,697,629,483,820,646,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 230584799:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 230584799:59.60; 14,757,395,258,967,641,292,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 461168799:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 461168799:59.60; 29,514,790,517,935,282,585,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 92233799:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 92233799:59.60; 59,029,581,035,870,565,171,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 18446799:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 18446799:59.60; 118,059,162,071,741,130,342,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 36893499:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 36893499:59.60; 236,118,324,143,482,260,684,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 7378699:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 7378699:59.60; 472,236,648,286,964,521,361,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 14757399:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 14757399:59.60; 944,473,296,573,929,042,723,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 29514799:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 29514799:59.60; 1,888,946,593,147,858,184,446,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 59029599:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 59029599:59.60; 3,777,893,186,295,716,368,892,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 11805999:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 11805999:59.60; 7,555,786,372,591,432,737,785,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 23611899:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 23611899:59.60; 15,111,572,745,182,865,475,571,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 47223699:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 47223699:59.60; 30,223,145,490,365,731,951,142,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 9444799:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 9444799:59.60; 60,446,290,980,731,463,902,284,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 18889499:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 18889499:59.60; 120,892,581,961,462,927,807,569,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 3777899:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 3777899:59.60; 241,785,163,922,925,855,615,139,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 75557899:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 75557899:59.60; 483,570,327,845,851,711,238,278,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 15111599:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 15111599:59.60; 967,140,655,691,703,422,476,556,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 30223199:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 30223199:59.60; 1,934,281,311,383,406,845,953,113,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 70446299:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 70446299:59.60; 3,868,562,622,766,812,171,807,227,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 15111599:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 15111599:59.60; 7,737,125,245,533,624,343,614,454,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 30223199:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 30223199:59.60; 15,474,250,491,067,248,686,122,908,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 70446299:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 70446299:59.60; 30,948,500,982,134,497,373,245,817,617,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 15111599:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 15111599:59.60; 61,897,001,964,268,994,746,491,635,235,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 30223199:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 30223199:59.60; 123,794,003,928,537,989,493,983,270,470,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 70446299:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 70446299:59.60; 247,588,007,857,075,978,987,966,540,940,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 15111599:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 15111599:59.60; 495,176,015,714,150,957,975,933,081,881,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 30223199:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 30223199:59.60; 990,352,031,428,301,915,951,866,166,363,363,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 70446299:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 70446299:59.60; 1,980,704,062,856,602,830,902,173,332,726,726,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 15111599:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 15111599:59.60; 3,961,408,125,713,204,166,180,346,653,453,452,800 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 30223199:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 30223199:59.60; 7,922,816,251,426,408,332,360,692,130,706,905,600 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 70446299:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 70446299:59.60; 15,845,632,502,852,816,664,720,138,412,181,811,200 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 15111599:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 15111599:59.60; 31,691,265,005,705,328,132,840,276,824,363,622,400 Metres: 1. M. Lattany (USA) 30223199:59.59; 2. J. Phillips (USA) 30

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.40 Open University: Town and Country; 7.05 Maths Methods: Differential Equations; 7.30 The Agony of Athens; 7.55 Closedown; 8.08 For Schools: Colleges: Going to Work; 9.33 Modern methods of moving goods; 10.00 You and Me. For the very young; (not Schools) (r); 10.15 Music Time: Copest; 10.30 History: Pax Romana; 11.00 The Smugglers of Orkney; 11.25 Talkabout; 11.42 Industrial Relations; 12.07 Closedown; 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Margaret Hounsell; 12.57 Regional news (London and SE only: Financial report and news headlines with subtitles); 1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Among the guests is American actor, Robert White; 1.45 Camberwell Green (r); 2.01 For Schools; 2.18 Working Drawings; 2.40 Out of the Past; 3.00 Closedown; 3.15 Songs of Praise from St Malachi's Church, Coleraine introduced by Seamus McKee; 3.53 Regional news (not London).

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: M101/4 Inverse Functions; 7.05 Main-Powered Aircraft; 7.30 Database: Local Authorities; 7.55 Closedown; 8.05 Speak for Yourself: Knowing your rights if you are arrested; 11.00 Play School; For the under fives presented by Shesagh Gilbey and Johnny Ball; 11.25 Write Away. A guide to practical writing presented by Barry Took and Andrew Sachs; 11.40 Closedown; 2.00 Long, Short and Tall Stories. A look at some recently published children's fiction; 2.25 Make Me Up; 'O' level class (r); 2.40 One People's Lives. A gypsy community in Richmond, California; 3.05 The Computer Programme; The last of a series of programmes on the world of information science.

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: Thumbelina — part one of a cartoon; 9.47 How Illusions are created; 10.10 A steelworks in Sheffield; 10.21 Media industrial relations; 10.48 For the hearing impaired; 11.05 Adolescence; 11.22 A Visit to a Welsh coal mine; 11.39 The changing world of women; 12.00 Cockleshell Bay. Adventures of the Cockle twins for the very young; 12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets; 12.30 That's the Way. A look at family income supplement, supplementary benefit, unemployment benefit, rent and rate rebates; 1.00 News with Peter Sissons; 1.20 Thames news; 1.30 About Britain. Peter Williams investigates the state of the south's banking waters; 2.00 Money-go-Round. The programme which deals with a new scheme in local government; 2.30 Film: The Jokers (1986) starring Michael Crawford and Oliver Reed. Two men plan to steal the Crown Jewels and then put them back. The first part of the exploit goes like clockwork.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing; 6.10 Farming Week; 6.25 Shipping Forecast; 6.30 Today, including: 6.45 Prayer for the Day; 7.00, 8.30 News; 7.30, 8.30 News; 7.45 Thought for the Day; 8.35 The Week on 4; 8.43 John Ebdon delivers into the BBC Sound Archives; 8.57 Weather: Travel; 9.00 News; 9.05 Start the Week with Richard Baker; 10.00 Money Box; 10.30 Daily Service; 10.45 Morning Story: "A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Wedding" by Jill Norris; 11.00 News; 11.05 Down Your Way visits Krishna; 11.20 The World Tonight; 12.00 News; 12.02 You and Yours; 12.27 Seal-Circles with Paula Wilcox and David Ward; 12.55 Weather: Travel: Programme News; 1.00 The World At One: News; 1.40 The Archers; 2.00 News; 2.02 Women's Hour visits India; 2.05 News; 3.02 Afternoon Theatre: "The Road to Nineveh" by John Kirk Morris; 3.05 News; 3.50 Shipping Forecast; 3.55 Weather: Programme News; 4.00 The Six O'Clock News; 4.05 News; 4.10 A Minute. A panel game; 4.15 News; 4.20 The Archers; 4.25 Start the Week with Richard Baker; 4.30 The World Tonight; 4.35 Kaledoscope; 4.40 News; 4.45 News; 4.50 News; 4.55 News; 5.00 News; 5.05 News; 5.10 News; 5.15 News; 5.20 News; 5.25 News; 5.30 News; 5.35 News; 5.40 News; 5.45 News; 5.50 News; 5.55 News; 6.00 News; 6.05 News; 6.10 News; 6.15 News; 6.20 News; 6.25 News; 6.30 News; 6.35 News; 6.40 News; 6.45 News; 6.50 News; 6.55 News; 7.00 News; 7.05 News; 7.10 News; 7.15 News; 7.20 News; 7.25 News; 7.30 News; 7.35 News; 7.40 News; 7.45 News; 7.50 News; 7.55 News; 8.00 News; 8.05 News; 8.10 News; 8.15 News; 8.20 News; 8.25 News; 8.30 News; 8.35 News; 8.40 News; 8.45 News; 8.50 News; 8.55 News; 9.00 News; 9.05 News; 9.10 News; 9.15 News; 9.20 News; 9.25 News; 9.30 News; 9.35 News; 9.40 News; 9.45 News; 9.50 News; 9.55 News; 10.00 News; 10.05 News; 10.10 News; 10.15 News; 10.20 News; 10.25 News; 10.30 News; 10.35 News; 10.40 News; 10.45 News; 10.50 News; 10.55 News; 11.00 News; 11.05 News; 11.10 News; 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